



MASARYK UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

2006



MASARYK UNIVERSITY



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Table of Contents	3
Foreword	5
1 University Structure, Officers and Official Bodies	7
2 Studies	15
Quality of Teaching Activities	15
Quality of Academic Life	28
Educational Activities as a Public Service	33
3 Research	37
4 The University and Links to the Society	57
5 Support Processes	63
6 Information Infrastructure	79
Photo Gallery	93



Petr Fiala Rector of Masaryk University

“The present Annual Report and above all the results achieved at the university in 2006 are convincing proof that the academic staff, other employees and students of the university take seriously the main shared goal of making Masaryk University a prestigious European centre of university teaching and research. From among the many facts and data that can be found in the Annual Report for 2006 I would like to stress a few examples of successful activities with long-term relevance for the university’s development.”



MASARYKOVA UNIVERZITA

Foreword

This past year, 2006, marked the first year in which Masaryk University began fulfilling its ambitious *Strategic Plan*, which sets out the university's development strategy until 2010. The present *Annual Report* and above all the results achieved at the university in 2006 are convincing proof that the academic staff, other employees and students of the university take seriously the main shared goal of making Masaryk University a prestigious European centre of university teaching and research. From among the many facts and data that can be found in the *Annual Report for 2006* I would like to stress a few examples of successful activities with long-term relevance for the university's development.

In the area of teaching, certain processes aimed at consolidating the environment in which studies are carried out have reached their fruition. The integration of the study regulations and the credit system has resulted in a clearer and, from the administrative point of view, in many ways simpler system that is more user-friendly for students, academic staff and applicants for study. A unified minimum standard requirement for foreign language competence for academic purposes at all levels of study was approved. Its introduction has significantly improved chances of students and graduates of Masaryk University succeeding not only on the job market but also in the increasingly internationalized university milieu. The reformed student grant policy of the university has provided new options for both the individual faculties and their students. New Scholarship and Bursary Regulations have promoted the development of the structure of grant programmes and opportunities, as evidenced by more than forty new scholarship and bursary programmes and the more than 250 million crowns in scholarships and bursaries paid out in 2006. The newly defined study and scholarship environment was complemented with the Rector's Programme for the Support of Students' Creative Activities, which, outside the framework of faculty programmes, has allowed students to obtain funding for their creative activities (for example in connection with the preparation of their Master's and doctoral theses) and which met with a very positive response in the first year of its existence.

Masaryk University is a research university, and scholarly and scientific research forms one of the basic pillars of the university, closely linked to teaching activities. It is therefore important for the university to continue to be successful in winning research projects and grants in various competitions – indeed the funding acquired in this way now represents nearly one third of the university's overall budget. As the

coming years will offer a unique opportunity to obtain financing from the EU's Structural Funds and as it is necessary for the university to succeed in the 7th Framework Programme, structures and mechanisms were developed in 2006 to lay the groundwork for success in these programmes. In this context I would like to mention in particular the university's role in the preparation of a project for a Central European Institute of Technology (CEITEC), but also the provision of strategic, legal, financial and other support for the preparation of European projects within the university.

The competitiveness of Masaryk University in the Czech (but increasingly also in the Central European and international) university environment has been reinforced by an effective marketing strategy and complex mechanisms developed to enhance communication with the world outside the university. In many respects the activities of Masaryk University in these areas are unique in the Czech Republic: it has correctly identified the opportunities that are available and has been the first to make use of them. This past year marked the commencement of the unique project Partnership in Education, which has established a basis for institutionalized cooperation between the university and secondary schools (and will at the same time provide a platform for seeking talented young people and encouraging them to apply for studies at MU). The establishment of the Association of Alumni and Friends of Masaryk University represents an important step towards reinforcing relationships within the university community that go beyond the period of study and thus creating suitable conditions for the further successful interaction of the university with the society at large.

The creation and strengthening of relationships with comparable institutions in Central Europe as well as in Europe in general helps strengthen the influence of Masaryk University on university and research policy. In this connection, the most important event was the conference of the European University Association held in Brno in autumn 2006, in the organization of which Masaryk University, in cooperation with the other Brno universities, took the lead. The event itself was clear proof of how involved the university is in key events relating to European university policy. But I am convinced that this was not a unique occasion, and that the development of the university – documented by this *Annual Report* – is steadily advancing it towards a firm and highly visible position in the European higher education teaching and research space.

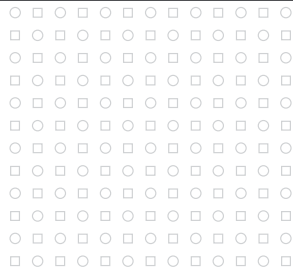
Petr Fiala, Rector



MU Scientific Board

“ The Scientific Board held four meetings in 2006. The regular items on the agenda included information and discussions about the activities of Masaryk University, discussions about proposals for professorial appointments and proposals for MU honorary doctorates and the university's Great Gold, Gold and Silver Medals. ”





University Structure, Officers and Official Bodies

1

Basic data

Name of public university: **Masaryk University**
 Address: **Žerotínovo nám. 9, 601 77 Brno, Czech Republic**
 Standard abbreviation: **MU**

Names and addresses of MU faculties



Faculty of Law
 Veveří 70
 611 80 Brno



**Faculty of Economics
and Administration**
 Lipová 41a
 659 79 Brno



Faculty of Medicine
 Komenského nám. 2
 662 43 Brno



Faculty of Informatics
 Botanická 68a
 602 00 Brno



Faculty of Science
 Kotlářská 2
 611 37 Brno



Faculty of Social Studies
 Joštova 10
 602 00 Brno



Faculty of Arts
 Arna Nováka 1
 660 88 Brno

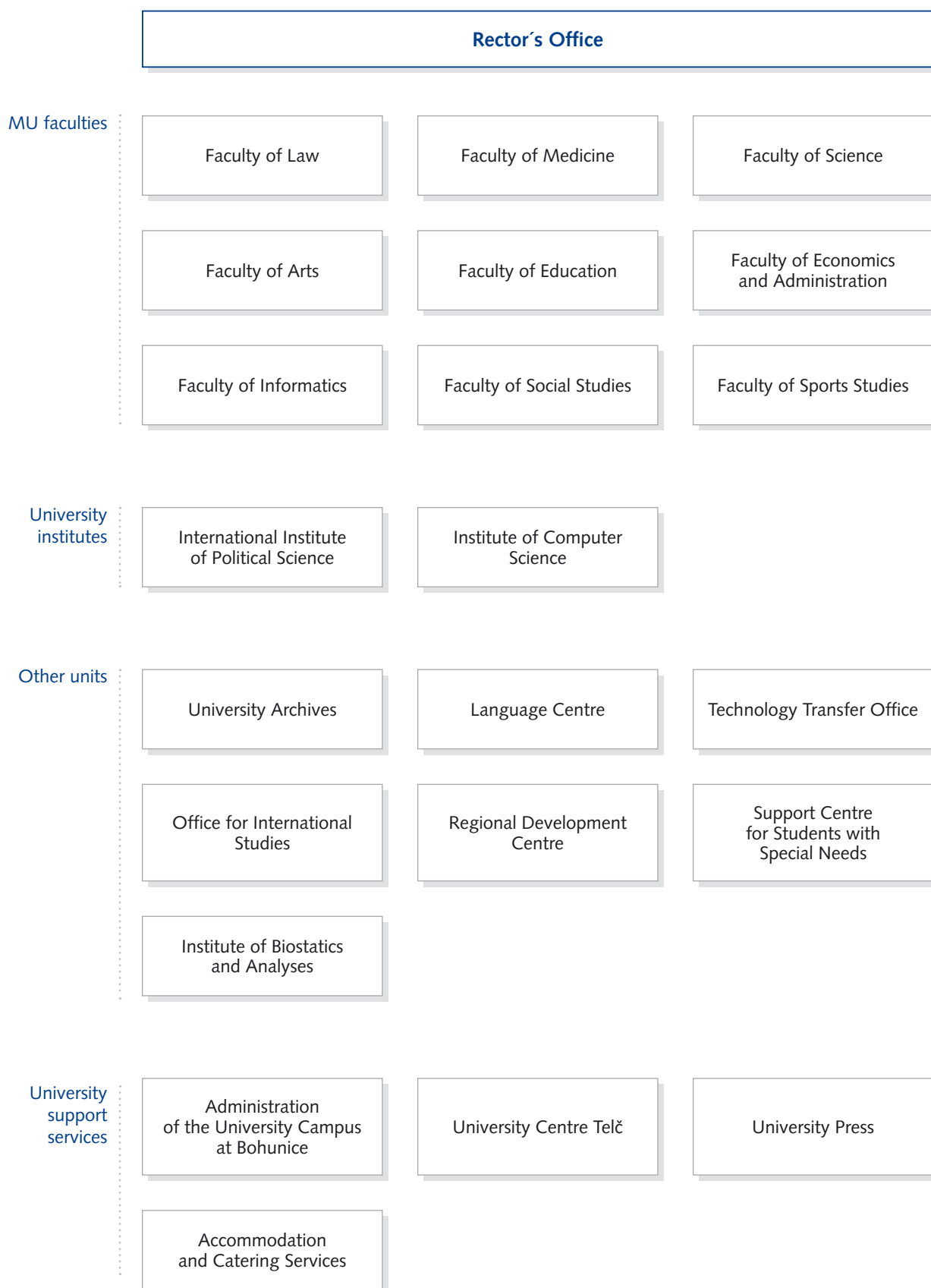


Faculty of Sports Studies
 Sladkého 13
 617 00 Brno-Komárov



Faculty of Education
 Poříčí 7
 603 00 Brno

MU organizational structure



Chief officers

Prof. PhDr. Petr Fiala, Ph.D.

Rector

Prof. Ing. Antonín Slaný, CSc.

Vice-Rector for Student Welfare and Financial Affairs

Prof. RNDr. Jana Musilová, CSc.

Vice-Rector for Research

Prof. MUDr. Zuzana Brázdová, DrSc.

Vice-Rector for Studies

Doc. PhDr. Mikuláš Bek, Ph.D.

Vice-Rector for Strategy and External Relations

Prof. MUDr. Ivan Rektor, CSc.

Vice-Rector for Development

(from 1 July 2006)

Doc. RNDr. Ivana Černá, CSc.

Vice-Rector for Information Technologies

(from 1 July 2006)

Doc. Ing. Ladislav Janíček, Ph.D., MBA

Bursar

Mgr. Iva Zlatušková

Executive Assistant to the Rector

(until 2 July 2006)

Mgr. et Mgr. Jiří Nantl

Executive Assistant to the Rector

(from 3 July 2006)

JUDr. Filip Křepelka, Ph.D.

Chair of MU Academic Senate

Board of Trustees

Chair

MUDr. Alena Štětková, CSc.

Chief Consultant for Strategy and Development,
St Anne's Faculty Hospital

Members

RNDr. Petr Duchoň

Member of the European Parliament

(until 15 March 2006)

Ing. Václav Hanke, CSc.

Director, Department of Programmes for Research and Development, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

Ing. Bohdan Hejduk

Director, State Budget Department, Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic

Ing. Stanislav Juránek

Governor, South Moravia Region

František Mikš

Editor-in-chief, Barrister & Principál Publishers

JUDr. Otakar Motejl

Ombudsman of the Czech Republic

Prof. MUDr. Peter Mráz, DrSc.

Vice-Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Comenius

University in Bratislava

ThDr. Ing. Lukáš Evžen Martinec

Abbot, Old Brno Abbey of the

Order of St. Augustine

RNDr. Luděk Niedermayer

Vice-Governor, Czech National Bank

Petr Pleva

Member of Parliament of the Czech Republic

(from 16 March 2006)

PhDr. Martin Profant

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

Prof. Jan Sokol, Ph.D., CSc.

Dean, Faculty of Humanities,

Charles University in Prague

Prof. Pavel Švanda

Professor, Faculty of Theatre, Janáček Academy of Music and Performing Arts

PhDr. Jitka Vitásková

Deputy Director, Brno House of Arts

Mgr. Bohuš Zoubek

Director, Brno Philharmonic

Scientific Board

Internal members

Prof. JUDr. Josef Bejček, CSc.

Faculty of Law

Doc. PhDr. Mikuláš Bek, Ph.D.

Faculty of Arts

Prof. RNDr. Václav Blažek, CSc.

Faculty of Arts

Prof. MUDr. Zuzana Brázdová, DrSc.

Faculty of Medicine

Doc. RNDr. Ivana Černá, CSc.

Faculty of Informatics

Prof. PhDr. Petr Fiala, Ph.D.

Faculty of Social Studies

Doc. RNDr. Milan Gelnar, CSc.

Faculty of Science

Prof. RNDr. Jozef Gruska, DrSc.

Faculty of Informatics

Prof. RNDr. Josef Humlíček, CSc.

Faculty of Science

Doc. PhDr. Michal Charvát, CSc.

Faculty of Sports Studies

Prof. RNDr. Jaroslav Koča, DrSc.

Faculty of Science

Prof. PhDr. Josef Krob, CSc.

Faculty of Arts

Prof. PhDr. Jiří Kroupa, CSc.

Faculty of Arts

Prof. MUDr. Jindřich Lokaj, CSc.

Faculty of Medicine

Doc. JUDr. Ivan Malý, CSc.

Faculty of Economics and Administration

Prof. MUDr. Jaroslav Meluzín, CSc.

Faculty of Medicine

Prof. PhDr. Ivo Možný, CSc.

Faculty of Social Studies

Prof. RNDr. Jana Musilová, CSc.

Faculty of Science

Doc. PaedDr. Vladislav Mužík, CSc.

Faculty of Education

Prof. Ing. Pavel Ondrčka, CSc.

Faculty of Economics and Administration

PhDr. Jan Pavlík

Faculty of Arts

Prof. PhDr. Ladislav Rabušic, CSc.

Faculty of Social Studies

Prof. MUDr. Ivan Rektor, CSc.

Faculty of Medicine

Prof. RNDr. Jiří Rosický, DrSc.

Faculty of Science

Prof. RNDr. Eduard Schmidt, CSc.

Faculty of Science

Prof. Ing. Antonín Slaný, CSc.

Faculty of Economics and Administration

Prof. RNDr. Jan Slovák, DrSc.

Faculty of Science

Prof. PhDr. Maxmilián Strmiska, Ph.D.

Faculty of Social Studies

Doc. JUDr. Jan Svatoň, CSc.

Faculty of Law

Prof. PhDr. Rudolf Šrámek, CSc.

Faculty of Education

Prof. MUDr. Jiří Vorlíček, CSc.

Faculty of Medicine

Prof. RNDr. Jiří Zlatuška, CSc.

Faculty of Informatics

Prof. MUDr. Jan Žaloudík, CSc.

Faculty of Medicine

External members

Doc. PhDr. František Gahér, CSc.

J. A. Comenius University in Bratislava

Prof. JUDr. Pavel Holländer, DrSc.

Constitutional Court of the Czech Republic

Prof. RNDr. Helena Illnerová, DrSc.

Academy of Science of the Czech Republic

Doc. RNDr. Petr Kolář, CSc.

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
of the Czech Republic

Doc. RNDr. Jan Konvalinka, CSc.

Academy of Science of the Czech Republic

Doc. RNDr. Stanislav Kozubek, DrSc.

Academy of Science of the Czech Republic

Prof. PhDr. Milena Lenderová, CSc.

University of Pardubice

Prof. RNDr. Miroslav Liška, DrSc.

Brno University of Technology

Prof. MUDr. PhDr. Jana Mačáková, CSc.

Palacký University in Olomouc

Prof. Dr. phil. PhDr. Marek Nekula

University of Regensburg

Prof. PhDr. Miloslav Petrušek, CSc.

Charles University in Prague

Prof. Ing. Oldřich Pytela, DrSc.

University of Pardubice

Prof. Jan Sokol, Ph.D., CSc.

Charles University in Prague

Prof. RNDr. Vladimír Souček, DrSc.

Charles University in Prague

Prof. RNDr. Václav Suchý, DrSc.

University of Veterinary and
Pharmaceutical Sciences in Brno

Prof. Pavel Švanda

Janáček Academy of Music and
Performing Arts in Brno

Prof. Bedřich Velický, CSc.

Charles University in Prague

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Thomas Winkelbauer

University of Vienna

Doc. PhDr. František Gahér, CSc., Prof. RNDr. Jaroslav Koča, DrSc., Prof. PhDr. Josef Krob, CSc., Prof. MUDr. Jiří Vorlíček, CSc., and Prof. Dr. Dr.h.c. Thomas Winkelbauer were appointed members of the Scientific Board with effect as of 7 June 2006; Doc. RNDr. Ivana Černá, CSc. was appointed a member of the Scientific Board with effect as of 3 October 2006.



Activities of the MU Scientific Board

The Scientific Board held four meetings in 2006. The regular items on the agenda included information and discussions about the activities of Masaryk University, discussions about proposals for professorial appointments and proposals for MU honorary doctorates and the university's Great Gold, Gold and Silver Medals. The Scientific Board discussed 18 proposals for professorial appointments, of which 17 were approved and one terminated.

Approved professorial proposals

Doc. PhDr. Mária Bátorová, DrSc.

Slovak Academy of Sciences,
History of literatures (Slavic literatures)

Doc. PhDr. Marek Blatný, CSc.

Social psychology

Doc. RNDr. Luboš Brim, CSc.

Informatics

Doc. MUDr. Lubomír Elbl, CSc.

Internal medicine

Doc. JUDr. Josef Fiala, CSc.

Civil law

Doc. MUDr. Petr Husa, CSc.

Internal medicine

Doc. Ing. Vratislav Chromý, CSc.

Analytical chemistry

doc. MUDr. Lydie Izakovičová Hollá, Ph.D.

Pathological physiology

Doc. JUDr. Ján Klučka, CSc.,

European Court of Justice, International public law

Doc. RNDr. Mojmír Křetínský, CSc.

Informatics

Doc. PhDr. Petr Kyloušek, CSc.

History of literatures (Romance literatures)

Doc. PhDr. Vojtěch Lahoda, CSc.

Academy of Science of the Czech Republic,

Art history

Doc. MUDr. Jan Lata, CSc.

Internal medicine

Doc. MUDr. Jan Pachel, CSc.

Charles University in Prague, Anesthesiology,
intensive medicine and algesiology

Doc. MUDr. Jana Skříčková, CSc.

Internal medicine

Doc. PhDr. Ludvík Štěpán, Ph.D.

History of literatures (Slavic literatures)

Doc. MUDr. Jaroslav Štěřba, Ph.D.

Oncology

Table 1a Proceedings for professorships and associate professorships discussed by the MU Scientific Board in 2006

Faculty	Professors			Associate Professors		
	Total	of which MU	Terminated	Total	of which MU	Terminated
FL	2	1	0	0	0	0
FM	7	6	0	15	9	1
FS	1	1	0	6	5	0
FA	4	3	0	5	3	0
FE	1	1	1	7	2	2
FEA	0	0	0	1	1	0
FI	2	2	0	0	0	0
FSS	1	1	0	4	1	1
FSpS	0	0	0	1	1	0
Total	18	15	1	39	22	4

Mean age of professorial candidates 52.6; age range 35–69.

Mean age of new Associate Professors 44; age range 32–67.

Table 1b Proceedings for professorships and associate professorships at MU – totals

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Professors	18	13	18	11	30	22	25	24	13	13	18
Mean age	57.1	54.9	54.6	49.6	54.6	50.7	52.4	51.1	51.6	47.9	52.6
Associate Professors	62	57	69	46	42	24	40	39	58	38	39
Mean age	48.9	48.2	48.0	45.1	48.9	46.2	45.8	47.9	45.3	46.4	44.0

Academic Senate

Structure

The Academic Senate of Masaryk University, in accordance with its Statutes, has 46 members. The academic staff of each of the nine faculties of Masaryk University is represented by three members and the students of each faculty are represented by two members. University-wide units are represented by one member. The Academic Senate is divided to the Teachers' Chamber and the Student Chamber.

Officers

Chair:

JUDr. Filip Křepelka, Ph.D.

Vice-Chairs:

Prof. MUDr. Miroslav Penka, CSc.

(Chair of the Teachers' Chamber)

Veronika Kudrová

(Chair of the Student Chamber)

Faculty of Law:

Academic staff

Doc. JUDr. Milan Galvas, CSc.

Prof. JUDr. Milana Hrušáková, CSc.

JUDr. Filip Křepelka, Ph.D.

Students

Ivan Galat, Veronika Kudrová

Faculty of Medicine:

Academic staff

Doc. MUDr. Mojmír Blaha, CSc.

Prof. MUDr. Miroslav Penka, CSc.

Prof. MUDr. Anna Vašků, CSc.

Students

Michal Dráb, Milada Študentová

Faculty of Science:

Academic staff

RNDr. Miroslav Kolář, CSc.,

Doc. RNDr. Ctibor Mazal, CSc.

Doc. RNDr. David Trunec, CSc.

Students

Bc. Libor Lakota, Mgr. Tomáš Mozga

Faculty of Arts:

Academic staff

PhDr. Jarmila Bednaříková, CSc.

Prof. PhDr. Jaroslav Hroch, CSc.

Jeffrey Alan Vanderziel, B.A.

Students

Mgr. David Kuneš, Mgr. Jan Špaček

Faculty of Education:

Academic staff

Doc. RNDr. Jaroslav Beránek, CSc.

Mgr. Jiří Míhola

Prof. RNDr. Vladislav Navrátil, CSc.

Students

PhDr. Karel Pančocha, B.A., Jana Vašíčková

Faculty of Economics and Administration:

Academic staff

RNDr. Dalibor Moravanský, CSc.

Doc. Ing. Jaroslav Sedláček, CSc.

Ing. Vladimír Žitek, Ph.D.

Students

Ing. Tomáš Otáhal, Tomáš Psota

Faculty of Informatics:

Academic staff

Prof. PhDr. Ing. Miloš Dokulil, DrSc.

Doc. RNDr. Ivan Kopeček, CSc.

Doc. RNDr. Luděk Matyska, CSc.

Students

Bc. Vojtěch Forejt, Mgr. Jan Holeček

Faculty of Social Studies:

Academic staff

Doc. PhDr. Zdeněk Kříž, Ph.D.

PhDr. Petr Suchý, Ph.D.

Mgr. Zdeněk Sychra

Students

Mgr. Klára Poláčková, Mgr. Vojtěch Straka

Faculty of Sports:

Academic staff

PaedDr. Zdeněk Janík

Mgr. Alena Pokorná, Ph.D.

PaedDr. Věra Večeřová

Students

Mgr. Petr Kadlec, Barbora Zuchová

University units:

Doc. RNDr. Václav Račanský, CSc.

Activities of the MU Academic Senate

The Academic Senate held eight regular meetings in 2006 (20 February, 6 March, 20 March, 3 April, 24 April, 5 June, 2 October and 4 December). One of the meetings (20 September) was cancelled for lack of a quorum. One informal meeting was held for the purpose of discussing changes to the election regulations and rules of procedure (6 November).

The constituent meeting of the Academic Senate (the term of office of members is three years and most were elected for the period 2006–2008) elected the Chair of the Academic Senate and Chair of the Teachers' Chamber. The Chair of the Student Chamber was elected at a meeting of the Student Chamber on 5 June.

At its meetings the Academic Senate discussed and took decisions on matters falling within its competence according to the provisions of the Higher Education Act or Masaryk University regulations. Following a series of discussions at several joint and separate meetings of the two chambers, approval was given to new Masaryk University Study and Examination Regulations (20 March) as well as Scholarship and Bursary Regulations (6 March). In connection with the provision of government funding, approval was also given to the Masaryk University budget for 2006 (3 April), prepared in compliance with the budget rules approved towards the end of 2005 by the previous Academic Senate. The Academic Senate also took decisions concerning the internal regulations of individual facul-



ties on a regular basis. Meetings of the Academic Senate regularly include presentations and discussions on current topics concerning the operation and development of Masaryk University, for example the construction of the University Campus in Brno-Bohunice, science and research and individual development projects. The Academic Senate also took decisions or expressed its standpoint in connection with appointments of members of the Scientific Board of Masaryk University as well as of Vice-Rectors.

The Teachers' Chamber met once in 2006 (11 March) for discussion of the draft version of the university's new Study and Examination Regulations.

The Student Chamber meets regularly before the meetings of the Academic Senate as a whole in order to discuss the individual items on the agenda and other issues. In addition to its mandate in the Academic Senate, the Student Chamber also acts within the university in the interest and in favour of the community of MU students. In spring the Student Chamber held a meeting in the university's Teaching and Consultancy Centre at Šlapanice. The guests of the Student Chamber included the Chair of the Academic Senate and the Rector of MU, with whom the students discussed issues relating to the operation and functioning of the Academic Senate and Masaryk University. The Student Chamber held another informal meeting with the Rector in autumn

2006. In the past the Student Chamber dealt with several topics suggested by its members or related to the agenda of the Academic Senate as a whole; these included discussions with representatives of Masaryk University and its Faculty of Medicine concerning publication of Faculty of Medicine timetables on the web. Since 2006 the Student Chamber has run its own web site. Some members were also involved in the preparation of the project for a student advice service to be commenced at Masaryk University in the course of spring term 2007, and in the project entitled Partnerships in Education, which is focused on secondary schools and their students.

Each MU faculty delegates one member to the Finance Committee of the Academic Senate. The Committee is chaired by Doc. Ing. Jaroslav Sedláček, CSc. The Finance Committee, in close cooperation with the Rector and senior officers of the university, contributed in the course of the year to the preparation of the MU budget.

Table 2 Membership of Masaryk University in university organizations and in international and professional organizations

Organization	MU status
Danube Rectors' Conference (DRC)	member
International Association of Universities (IAU)	member
European University Association (EUA)	member
Utrecht Network	President
Compostela Group of Universities	member of Executive Committee
Inter-University Centre Dubrovnik (IUC)	member
European Association for International Education (EAIE)	member
NAFSA (Association of International Educators)	member
International Student Exchange Program (ISEP)	member
Heads of University Management and Administration Network in Europe (HUMANE)	member
Brno Centre for European Studies	Chair

Note: Status = status of MU in the organization, e.g. member, Chair, Vice-Chair, etc.



Study and Examination Regulations

A significant step towards implementation of the MU Strategic Plan for the period to 2010 was taken with the approval and implementation of the Study and Examination Regulations, which came into effect on 1 September 2006. Their major feature is that, unlike all previous regulations of this type, they embody a unified set of procedures and documentation for studies for all types of degree programmes (Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral).



Studies

2

Quality of Teaching Activities

Enhancing the university nature of education

A significant step towards implementation of the MU *Strategic Plan* for the period to 2010 was taken with the approval and implementation of the Study and Examination Regulations, which came into effect on 1 September 2006. Their major feature is that, unlike all previous regulations of this type, they embody a unified set of procedures and documentation for studies for all types of degree programmes (Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral). In all cases, fulfilment of study requirements is recorded each semester in accordance with the credit accumulation procedure and other principles of the ECTS. Where doctoral studies are concerned, MU is a pioneer, for elsewhere the use of ECTS for recording all components of doctoral studies (that is, regular taught courses and courses based on students' independent creative work) is still the subject of much debate. In order to deal with the specific features of doctoral studies, units with variable credit values were introduced (Doctoral thesis preparation, Preparation of publication, Teaching assistance, Study abroad, Study of specialized literature, etc.). The change in the system of recording studies in doctoral programmes was implemented with immediate effect, without any transitory period.

Further important features of the Study and Examination Regulations include the precise formulation of the provisions concerning completion of studies (final state examination and doctoral state examination, defence of the thesis, rules for establishing examination boards and their rules of procedure), more accurate formulation of the powers and obliga-

tions of the doctoral studies boards and doctoral committees, etc.

The Study and Examination Regulations take into account the new provisions related to amendments to Act No. 111/1998, in particular amendments to regulations governing inter-university study in cooperation with a foreign institution, jointly-supervised degrees, joint diplomas, the completion of doctoral studies pursuant to the terms and conditions of the European Doctorate, and the issue of the publication of theses.

Last but not least the regulations have introduced a six-grade classification scale using terminology compatible with scales in common use at universities abroad.

All administrative steps that need to be carried out for the purpose of recording study results both on the part of students and on the part of university administration staff (at the Offices for Studies of the individual faculties) are implemented electronically in the MU Information System, which also includes the necessary interactive forms.

International students have at their disposal an English translation of the Study and Examination Regulations; a Czech version of interpretations of the individual provisions of the regulations is now ready for publication.

The formal study regulations are defined in a fairly strict manner but do not limit the necessary freedom of students to devise their own specific plan of studies in accordance with the required contents of the individual accredited degree programmes and fields of study.

Degree programmes

In the 2006/2007 academic year Masaryk University offered 144 degree programmes at its nine faculties, of which 47 were Bachelor's programmes, 27 long-cycle Master's programmes, 43 Master's programmes and 27 doctoral programmes. Within the degree programmes, there were 805 fields of study – 244 at the Bachelor's level, 175 in long-cycle Master's programmes, 254 at the Master's level and 132 at the doctoral level. In the course of the academic year new degree programmes accredited and the accreditation of some existing programmes was expanded.

The Faculty of Social Studies offers two fields of study in English – European Politics, accredited within the Master's programme in Political Science, and Sociology, accredited within the Master's degree in Sociology.

Complete programmes in General Medicine and Dentistry at the Faculty of Medicine are also offered in English.

The Faculty of Economics and Administration offers a Master's degree in Administration Publique, provided together by Masaryk University and the University of Rennes 1 (France). The programme meets French university standards for highly qualified specialists in public administration. It also includes compulsory practicums with public administration bodies in the Czech Republic (1 month) and in France (3 months).

The Faculty of Economics and Administration also offers a four-year Bachelor's degree in European Economic, Administrative and Cultural Studies, which is taught jointly with the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Arts. It also includes a compulsory one-month practicum with a public sector organization in the Czech Republic or in an EU country.

Masaryk University has continued to expand its teaching presence in the Vysočina Region through activities at the University Centre in Telč, where combined forms of certain courses offered by the Faculty of Arts and the Faculty of Economics and Administration are taught.

Progress of studies is monitored pursuant to the relevant university regulations: enrolment in any semester is dependent on having obtained at least 15 credits in the previous semester, or at least 45 credits in the previous two semesters, from all courses taken. The credit system at Masaryk University is based on the ECTS principles.

In connection with its provision of accredited degree programmes, Masaryk University also provides recognition of foreign university education and qualifications in accordance with the Higher Education Act. In 2006 MU received 171 requests for recognition of foreign university education and qualifications in Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral degree programmes. In 12 of the abovementioned cases MU lacked the power to make a decision and in 15 cases the process was suspended. MU recognized foreign university education and qualifications in 100 cases and 44 requests were turned down (of these 11 applicants took advantage of their legal right to appeal to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic).

In addition, in 2006 Masaryk University, acting in accordance with Act No. 172/1990, issued certificates recognizing academic titles to 132 of its graduates.

Admission procedures

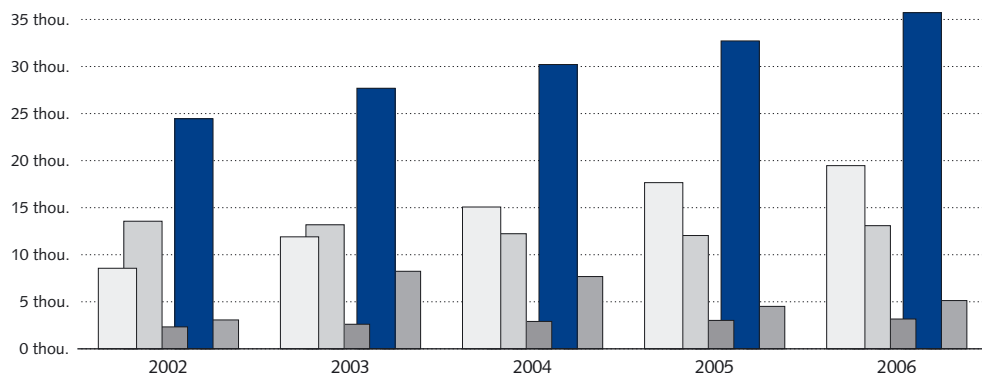
A total of 54,315 applications were submitted for study in Bachelor's and long-cycle Master's degree programmes at Masaryk University; of these, 52,244 (more than 96%) were filed electronically. Altogether 48,940 applicants sat the entrance examination; 36,583 passed the exam, 17,232 were admitted, and 11,469 enrolled in studies.

Scholastic ability tests were employed by most faculties in one form or another as a means of determining applicants' aptitude for university studies. Some faculties complemented these tests with an entrance examination in the subject to be studied.

The scholastic ability test consisted of eight subtests designed to evaluate specific mental features: numerical skills (the simplification of mathematic situations, the ability to operate quickly with numbers), analytical skills (searching for information in graphs and tables, assessing logical conditions), symbolic skills, critical thinking (discovering errors in written arguments, searching for order in large amounts of data), logical-verbal thinking (vocabulary, text comprehension, evaluating differences in meanings of words), spatial imagination, judgemental capabilities and cultural awareness. Each subtest included 10 questions. The whole test lasted 80 minutes.

The results of the scholastic ability test were presented in percentile form, which permits correct and fair comparisons to be made between individual applicants. The percentile value showed what per cent of the tested applicants achieved worse results. Detailed results were communicated to the applicants via the Internet.



Graph 1 Numbers of Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral students including international students and students in lifelong learning programmes (as of 31 October 2006)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Bachelor's	8,564	11,901	15,073	17,659	19,467
Master's	13,558	13,175	12,230	12,039	13,087
Doctoral	2,329	2,614	2,910	3,020	3,167
Total	24,451	27,690	30,213	32,718	35,721
Lifelong learning	3,067	8,242	7,677	4,514	5,128

Table 1 Admission procedure

	Form of study	Applied	Admitted by Dean	Appealed	Admitted on appeal	Admitted by Rector	Total admitted	Enrolled
FL	O	4,964	687	575	39	2	689	699
	C	3,723	388	330	38	0	388	411
	Total	8,687	1,075	905	77	2	1,077	1,110
FM	O	5,328	1,198	420	0	1	1,199	1,000
	C	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
	Total	5,328	1,198	420	0	1	1,199	1,000
FS	O	3,380	2,165	247	33	3	2,168	1,427
	C	122	92	12	0	0	92	88
	Total	3,502	2,257	259	33	3	2,260	1,515
FA	O	7,534	3,185	466	30	1	3,186	2,875
	C	1,859	566	98	4	0	566	539
	Total	9,393	3,751	564	34	1	3,752	3,414
FE	O	4,836	2,217	768	326	0	2,217	1,480
	C	2,590	801	359	19	9	810	782
	Total	7,426	3,018	1,127	345	9	3,027	2,262
FEA	O	5,193	1,128	686	0	3	1,131	785
	C	2,439	1,026	219	0	0	1,026	995
	Total	7,675	2,154	915	0	3	2,157	1,780
FI	O	2,091	1,292	77	13	0	1,292	975
	C	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
	Total	2,091	1,292	77	13	0	1,292	975
FSS	O	6,271	1,316	606	5	7	1,323	1,078
	C	2,040	560	185	0	4	564	528
	Total	8,311	1,876	791	5	11	1,887	1,606
FSpS	O	1,299	401	215	32	2	403	305
	C	603	176	100	4	2	178	146
	Total	1,902	577	315	36	4	581	451
MU	O	40,896	13,589	4,060	478	19	13,608	10,624
	C	13,376	3,609	1,303	65	15	3,624	3,489
	Total	54,315	17,198	5,373	543	34	17,232	14,113
2005/2006		55,848	17,017	6,366	787	83	16,762	12,914
Increase (%)		-2.74	1.06	-15.60	-31.00	-59.04	2.80	9.28
O – on-site studies, C – combined studies								

MU's *Strategic Plan* in the area of internationalization is implemented centrally by the Office for International Studies, which is responsible for coordinating and providing methodological guidelines for the activities of MU in the area of international relations. Significant activities in this area are carried out by the individual faculties, and these are recorded in the annual reports of the faculties.

International cooperation and student mobility

SOCRATES/ERASMUS

The principal mobility programme at MU remains SOCRATES/ERASMUS, which facilitates stays by MU students and teachers abroad and those by international students and academics at MU. There has been a steady long-term increase in the number of incoming and outgoing students. In the 2005/2006 academic year 544 MU students left for studies abroad, representing a 25% increase over the 2004/2005 academic year (435 students). The number of MU teachers travelling abroad has stabilized at around 75. One very positive feature of mobility development is the increased interest of international students in studies at MU: in 2005/2006 these amounted to 250, in comparison with 212 in the previous year. In 2005/2006 MU welcomed over 50 visiting teachers.

The 2006/2007 academic year will undoubtedly see a further increase in the number of outgoing MU students, with 650 planning to study abroad (an increase of about 20% in comparison with the previous year). No significant increase in the mobility of MU teachers in 2006/2007 is anticipated. It was expected that there would be a further increase in the number of incoming international students in the 2006/2007 academic year, and this was confirmed, with 295 coming to study at MU.

A source of pride for the university is the increased involvement of the individual faculties in such SOCRATES/ERASMUS programmes as the Intensive Programmes, Thematic Networks, COMENIUS, Arion and Grundtvig.

Leonardo

IN 2006 Masaryk University remained active in this programme, which provides funding for practical placements abroad. Most of the activities carried out were part of ongoing projects. One of the most successful was a project entitled "Harmonization of the Joint Degree Programme" that included grants for students and teachers of the FEA within the context of the Czech-French Master's degree.

Jean Monnet

Six ongoing projects were carried out at MU in 2006 in this programme (Jean Monnet Chair, European module and Permanent course); these involved the Faculties of Law, Arts, Education and Social Studies. One new project began at the Faculty of Social Studies.

CEEPUS

The number of projects increased slightly, with continuing involvement of the Faculties of Arts, Economics and Administration, Education and Science.

Cooperation with prime partner universities

The special mobility programme with prime partner universities in Wrocław, Poznań, Szeged, Pécs, Greifswald, Regensburg, Vienna and Bratislava is aimed primarily at teachers and doctoral students. In 2006 a total of 56 MU teachers went abroad, with the total number of days they spent there amounting to 256. Masaryk University was visited by 46 foreign teachers who spent 252 days at MU. The overall volume of the exchanges increased by about 20%.

Bilateral agreements

In 2006 the university signed three new agreements, with the University of Nancy 2 (France) and with the University of Białystok and the University of Łódź (both in Poland). Cooperation was extended for further periods with the Ramon Llull Institute (Spain – Catalonia) and Edgewood College (USA).

Other scholarships

The Office for International Studies (OIS) helped MU students obtain scholarships at the University of Dresden and the University of Nebraska – Lincoln (U.S.A.). Following an agreement with the Budapest office of the International Institute of Education (an American NGO), MU students took part for the first time in the Goldman Sachs Global Leaders programme and the GE Foundation Scholarship scheme.

Development Programmes of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

In 2006 – as in previous years – the Office for International Studies (OIS) received funding from the Development Programmes of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic that was earmarked for grants to students wishing to attend foreign universities within bilateral agreements with MU or as "freemovers". In 2006 the number of these students was 178, up from 120 in 2005. The increase concerned both students going abroad on the basis of bilateral agreements (from 88 to 132) and "freemovers" (from 32 to 46). The students travelled to 35 countries, among them several European countries as well as Japan, Brazil, Mexico, the USA, Canada, Australia, Tunisia, Egypt, Turkey and Israel.

Pavel Kohn Scholarship

In 2006 MU awarded the first Pavel Kohn Scholarships, with the two recipients – one from Great Britain and the other from the USA – coming to MU in September. Both scholarship holders used their time at MU to carry out research and work on their doctoral theses.



Scholarships based on international agreements

Various international agreements between the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic and Ministries of Education of other countries offer scholarships abroad for students and academic staff. These cover studies, lecturing and research as well as language courses. In 2006 scholarships in 14 European countries and in China went to 10 MU teachers and 37 students.

Foreign language programmes

Central European Study Programme (CESP)

This is a single-semester programme for which fees are paid. English is the teaching language and the main participants are students from the USA and Canada coming to MU within the International Student Exchange Programme. Beginning in winter semester 2006 American students enrolled in the ISEP DIRECT programme have also been among the participants. Considerable numbers of students attending courses in the programme also come to MU within the SOCRATES/ERASMUS programme. The total number of students attending these courses continues to grow. In 2006 courses offered in the CESP programme were attended by 210 students, compared to 146 students in 2005.

TESOL TE and CELTA

In 2006 the Office for International Studies again offered a single-semester programme designed for future and experienced teachers of English. The great advantage of the TESOL TE programme is its comprehensive nature: it combines methodology, practical teaching, linguistics and Czech cultural studies. MU students and international teachers, many of them employed in language schools in Brno and its environs, usually opt for participation in the CELTA course, which forms part of the TESOL TE programme. All successful participants in the programme receive the internationally acknowledged Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA), issued by the University of Cambridge. An exceptional feature of the certificate is that there is no time-limit to its validity; in addition, it authorizes its holders to teach English as a foreign language all over the world.

Summer School with Toronto University

The great success of the first two years of the Summer School of Central European Studies organized by the Office for International Studies at Masaryk University in 2004 and 2005 in cooperation with the University of Toronto led to the decision to add a second summer school focusing on Central European history in 2006.

MU presentation abroad

The presentation of Masaryk University at various conferences and other events at home and abroad is one of the main tasks of the Office for International Studies.

EAIE and NAFSA

As in previous years, in 2006 staff members of the Office for International Studies attended the two

principal conferences and education fairs in the area of international relations in Europe and in America, held respectively by the EAIE (European Association for International Education) and NAFSA (Association of International Educators). Participation in the two conferences deepened relationships with existing partners and also led to new contacts.

European Higher Education Fairs

The purpose of the European Commission's long-term project for holding European Higher Education Fairs is to present European universities at a series of education fairs in Latin America and Asia. Masaryk University, as a member of the Utrecht Network of universities, whose project "Best Master's Courses" was awarded an Erasmus Mundus grant to participate in the higher education fairs, was able to attend two such fairs in 2006, one in Bangkok and the other in New Delhi. In these two cities MU presented information about studies at member universities of the Utrecht Network (and MU in particular), with a focus on Master's and doctoral degree programmes taught in English. The fairs were attended by several thousand students interested both in paid degree programmes offered by MU as well as in scholarships.

ERASMUS dissemination project

The Office for International Studies presented MU at a seminar on the dissemination of best practices in the area of the marketing of European university education that was organized by the Greek National SOCRATES/ERASMUS Agency within the framework of a series of symposia and conferences related to an EU project, "genERation", that was coordinated by the Hungarian National SOCRATES/ERASMUS Agency.

Activities within the framework of international networks

Utrecht Network

The principal form of cooperation within the international Utrecht Network of universities has been student exchanges. The number of exchanges within the SOCRATES/ERASMUS programme between MU and other member universities in the network in 2005/2006 showed a moderate increase.

Another important activity of the Utrecht Network is that of summer schools. In 2006 two MU students received scholarships for participation in a summer school on Dutch Society and Culture held in Utrecht. For the fourth time, the Utrecht Network organized a summer school in Italy on human rights; this was attended by two students from MU. The network's other summer school, on environmental studies, was held in Ljubljana with the participation of two MU students.

Compostela Group of Universities (CGU)

MU has been involved in three working groups of this network, including the publications group (the Director of the Office for International Studies is editor-in-chief of the network's publications), the administrative staff mobility group and, most recently, the Multilingualism and Cross-Cultural

Cooperation group. As part of the administrative staff mobility scheme, newly named STELLA, two grants were awarded to MU staff members and two administrative staff members from Spanish universities visited MU.

One of the CGU's most ambitious projects is Compostela Media. This is a series of films on research at member universities of the network, designed for broadcasting by public TV stations in and outside Europe. Masaryk University was selected as one of the first three universities involved in the project; in 2006 a 55-minute documentary film on research at MU's Faculty of Science was completed.

Other activities

In 2006 the IGBRIU project continued under management by a group of universities coordinated by the Compostela Group of Universities within the framework of the Tempus Meda programme. The aim of the project is to train academic and administrative staff at all fourteen Morocco universities in all aspects of the work of university international relations offices.

International Student Club

The International Student Club (ISC), whose main aim is to assist international students of MU, success-

fully extended in activities in 2006. The club organized a number of different activities, including a tutorial system (in which a Czech student takes care of a few foreign students, helping them with administrative and organizational matters at the university and outside it), presentations of individual countries, with the involvement of both Czech and international students, group and tandem language courses, taught by Czech and foreign students, a film club, various sports activities, one-day and weekend trips across the Czech Republic, etc. All the activities of the Czech students in the context of ISC are voluntary. Despite this, the interest of Czech students in becoming involved in the ISC keeps growing (in 2005 the club had 120 volunteers while in 2006 there were 150). In order to improve communication and create a simpler system of dissemination of information, the ISC established a new web site (<http://isc.muni.cz>); the new site also includes a new internal information system offering an easily accessible database of ISC members and tutors. In order to be able to apply for various types of grants, the ISC became a civic association in September 2006, and soon after started fundraising activities. The success of the ISC was reflected dramatically in the election of the former President of the ISC, Eva Ošlejšková, as President of the national ERASMUS Student Network.

Support for students' language skills

Language Centre

The Language Centre is an MU university-wide institution providing language teaching for students at all faculties who are not enrolled in language degree programmes. It thus plays a key role in implementation of MU's Strategic Plan in the area of support for the language competencies of MU students.

At the eight faculty divisions of the Language Centre, language teachers and foreign lecturers focus on language specifics in individual disciplines and the teaching of academic skills in English, German, French, Spanish and Russian. The language courses are part of Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral degree programmes in both the on-site and combined modes of study. At the Faculties of Law, Medicine and Arts specialized terminology in Latin is also taught. The Language Centre also offers courses in specialized Czech terminology for international students and, working in cooperation with selected faculty departments, provides courses in which language teaching is integrated with particular subjects. Within the framework of a university-wide project for e-learning at MU entitled "Multimedia and IT support for all forms of teaching at MU" teachers of the Language Centre have developed a number of e learning materials for the teaching of specialized and academic language at individual faculties.

In March 2006 approval was given to a document entitled "The Organization of Language Teaching at MU", which was based on the Joint European Reference Framework for Languages and was designed to increase the language skills of MU graduates. With reference to this document, the Language Centre was responsible for a project in 2006 entitled "Evaluation

Processes and Standards: Application of the Common European Framework for Languages to Academic and Professional Foreign Language at the University Level. This project is the start of a long-term process leading to the standardization of language skills of MU undergraduates and graduates.

An important part of the Language Centre is the multimedia room in the building of the MU Rector's Office, where students and staff of the university can make use of materials and learning programmes for extending their general and specialized knowledge of foreign languages: textbooks, dictionaries, worksheets, video recordings, CD-ROMs, DVDs, satellite programmes. The multimedia room provides for the option of self-education independent of classroom teaching.

In October 2006 video conferencing equipment was put into operation in the multimedia room; since then it has been regularly used for teaching communicative skills to MU students. Within a LEONARDO DA VINCI project the Language Centre, together with partner universities in Europe (Great Britain and Spain), is preparing methodological materials for this interactive form of learning.

In 2006 the Language Centre again organized the Institutional TOEFL international examination in English, and along with it an intensive preparatory course. For the first time the Centre organized a preparatory course for DELE, which is the Spanish equivalent of the English proficiency examinations. The Language Centre also organized English, French and German conversation classes for doctors, students of the Faculty of Medicine and healthcare professionals and an English course for employees in the state administration.





The Language Centre is a member of the Czech and Slovak Association of University Language Centres (CASAJC), and as such a member of the Association of European Language Centres (CercleS). Its aim is to support the teaching of and research on foreign languages at universities on the basis of the use and development of up-to-date teaching methods. Cooperation between language centres in 2006 focused on implementation of the European Language Portfolio and language testing of students learning languages.

In 2006, as in previous years, intensive cooperation with the British Council continued. The British Council has provided the Centre significant long-term financial support in the form of grants, thus allowing selected teachers of English to become national trainers for ESP (English for Specific Purposes). The British Council has also initiated the establishment of the professional organisation AMATE (Association of Methodologists – Association of Teacher Educators), with the active involvement of MU Language Centre teachers of English.

Lifelong learning and the University of the Third Age

In 2006 the area of lifelong learning at Masaryk University experienced considerable growth. All faculties together with the MU Rector's Office offered 401 lifelong learning programmes, with a record 17,260 students in on-site, distance and combined forms of study. Courses aimed at extending and upgrading professional qualifications were offered in 395 of the programmes, which attracted 15,879 participants. The largest share in this type of lifelong learning is represented by the Faculty of Medicine, with 12,050 participants.

In the period in question Masaryk University reinforced its internal organizational tools for the development of lifelong learning, introducing many

new measures, especially in support of the role of information technologies in the lifelong learning provided by MU. Since the 2005/2006 academic year, the educational activities of the University of the Third Age (U3V) have been coordinated centrally by the MU Rector's Office, with the content coming from the individual MU faculties. Education provided by the University of the Third Age in Brno and Telč is offered in five interrelated lifelong learning programmes, with 1,380 participants in the 2006/2007 academic year. The educational activities of the University of the Third Age in 2006/2007 also included 20 thematic short-term courses and other activities.

Table 2 Number of lifelong learning courses at MU

Groups of degree programmes	Professionally oriented courses			Personal interest courses			U3V	Total
	up to 15 h.	up to 100 h.	more	up to 15 h.	up to 100 h.	more		
Natural sciences	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	2
Technical sciences	25	39	–	–	–	–	–	64
Agricultural, forestry, veterinary med.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Health, medical, pharmaceutical	240	–	5	–	–	–	–	245
Social sciences and services	–	7	9	–	–	–	5	21
Economics	–	9	–	–	–	–	–	9
Law, legal and public affairs	21	4	2	–	–	–	–	27
Education, teaching, social work	–	31	–	–	–	–	–	31
Psychology	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	2
Culture and the arts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	286	93	16	–	1	–	5	401

Note: U3V – University of the Third Age

Table 3 Number of students in lifelong learning courses at MU

Groups of degree programmes	Professionally oriented courses			Personal interest courses			U3V	Total
	up to 15 h.	up to 100 h.	more	up to 15 h.	up to 100 h.	more		
Natural sciences	–	2	–	–	1	–	–	3
Technical sciences	204	50	–	–	–	–	–	254
Agricultural, forestry, veterinary med.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Health, medical, pharmaceutical	12,000	–	50	–	–	–	–	12,050
Social sciences and services	–	13	596	–	–	–	1,380	1,989
Economics	–	322	–	–	–	–	–	322
Law, legal and public affairs	402	406	220	–	–	–	–	1,028
Education, teaching, social work	–	1,608	–	–	–	–	–	1,608
Psychology	–	6	–	–	–	–	–	6
Culture and the arts	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total	12,606	2,407	866	–	1	–	1,380	17,260

Undergraduates and graduates in degree programmes

Table 4 Accredited degree programmes at MU

Groups of degree programmes	Regular degree programmes						PhD
	Ba.		I-c Ma.		Ma.		
	O	C	O	C	O	C	
Natural sciences	16	5	8		16	4	6
Technical sciences	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Agricultural, forestry, veterinary med.	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Health, medical, pharmaceutical	1	1	3	–	1	–	2
Social sciences and services	16	16	8	2	14	7	7
Economics	3	2	3	–	4	2	3
Law, legal and public affairs	–	1	1	–	–	–	1
Education, teaching, social work	6	3	3	3	4	4	3
Psychology	1	2	1	1	2	1	1
Culture and the arts	2	1	1	–	2	1	1
Total	45	31	28	6	43	19	24

O – on-site studies, C – combined studies

Table 5 Student numbers at MU as of 31 October 2006

Faculty	Regular degree programmes		
	Citizens of CR	Foreigners	Total
FL	3,269	296	3,565
FM	2,958	954	3,912
FS	3,269	225	3,494
FA	7,656	540	8,196
FE	5,770	78	5,848
FEA	3,395	372	3,767
FI	1,545	415	1,960
FSS	3,473	301	3,774
FSpS	1,180	25	1,205
RMU	0	0	0
Total	32,515	3,206	35,721





Table 6 Student numbers (citizens of CR) at MU as of 31 October 2006

Faculty	Regular degree programmes										Total				
	On-site					Combined									
	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total
FL	0	2,286	0	46	2,332	842	0	0	95	937	842	2,286	0	141	3,269
FM	605	1,430	155	241	2,431	80	0	0	447	527	685	1,430	155	688	2,958
FS	1,808	114	537	397	2,856	124	0	1	288	413	1,932	114	538	685	3,269
FA	3,981	653	1,138	255	6,027	1,074	71	95	389	1,629	5,055	724	1,233	644	7,656
FE	2,268	1,163	383	75	3,889	860	484	441	96	1,881	3,128	1,647	824	171	5,770
FEA	618	906	157	64	1,745	1,371	0	176	103	1,650	1,989	906	333	167	3,395
FI	1,168	5	299	51	1,523	0	0	0	22	22	1,168	5	299	73	1,545
FSS	1,557	0	568	134	2,259	952	0	149	113	1,214	2,509	0	717	247	3,473
FSpS	579	67	104	12	762	277	0	83	58	418	856	67	187	70	1,180
RMU	0	0	–	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	12,584	6,624	3,341	1,275	23,824	5,580	555	945	1,611	8,691	18,164	7,179	4,286	2,886	32,515

Table 7 Student numbers (international) at MU as of 31 October 2006

Faculty	Regular degree programmes										Total				
	On-site					Combined									
	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total
FL	0	276	0	3	279	16	0	0	1	17	16	276	0	4	296
FM	39	815	2	63	919	5	0	0	30	35	44	815	2	93	954
FS	122	6	31	50	209	4	0	0	12	16	126	6	31	62	225
FA	280	91	72	22	465	31	5	2	37	75	311	96	74	59	540
FE	31	6	6	1	44	7	19	3	5	34	38	25	9	6	78
FEA	86	176	8	4	274	81	0	0	17	98	167	176	8	21	372
FI	369	0	40	4	413	0	0	0	2	2	369	0	40	6	415
FSS	158	0	60	17	235	59	0	0	7	66	217	0	60	24	301
FSpS	10	1	2	2	15	5	0	1	4	10	15	1	3	6	25
Total	1,095	1,371	221	166	2,853	208	24	6	115	353	1,303	1,395	227	281	3,206

Table 8 Number of degree programmes and fields of study offered on-site at MU

Groups of study fields	Study field codes	Degree programmes/fields								Total degree prog./fields	
		Ba.		I-c Ma.		Ma.		PhD			
Natural sciences	11 až 18	16	67	8	32	16	69	8	39	48	207
Technical sciences	21 až 39	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
Agricultural, forestry, veterinary med.	41 až 43	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
Health, medical, pharmaceutical	51 až 53	3	8	3	3	2	3	2	25	10	39
Social sciences and services	61,65,67,71–74	18	93	6	50	13	77	7	32	44	252
Economics	62	3	10	3	6	4	9	3	5	13	30
Law, legal and public affairs	68	1	7	1	1	0	0	1	14	3	22
Education, teaching, social work	75	4	43	4	75	6	82	3	5	17	205
Psychology	77	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	8	5	12
Culture and the arts	81, 82	1	15	1	7	1	12	1	4	4	38
Total	11 až 82	47	244	27	175	43	254	27	132	144	805

Table 9 Number of degree programmes offered at MU

Groups of study fields	Study field codes	Degree programmes							Total degree prog.
		Ba.		I-c Ma.		Ma.		PhD	
		O	C	O	C	O	C		
Natural sciences	11 až 18	16	6	8	–	16	3	8	57
Technical sciences	21 až 39	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
Agricultural, forestry, veterinary med.	41 až 43	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
Health, medical, pharmaceutical	51 až 53	3	1	3	–	2	–	2	11
Social sciences and services	61,65,67,71–74	18	15	6	2	13	10	7	71
Economics	62	3	2	3	–	4	2	3	17
Law, legal and public affairs	68	–	1	1	–	0	–	1	3
Education, teaching, social work	75	4	3	4	3	6	5	3	28
Psychology	77	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	8
Culture and the arts	81, 82	1	1	1	–	1	1	1	6
Total	11 až 82	46	30	27	6	43	22	27	201

O – on-site studies, C – combined studies

Table 10 Student numbers at MU by fields of study – on-site and combined studies

Groups of study fields	Study field codes	Students in degree programmes								Total
		Ba.		I-c Ma.		Ma.		PhD		
		O	C	O	C	O	C	O	C	
Natural sciences	11 až 18	3467	128	125	–	906	1	502	324	5,453
Technical sciences	21 až 39	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
Agricultural, forestry, veterinary med.	41 až 43	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
Health, medical, pharmaceutical	51 až 53	644	85	2,245	–	157	–	304	477	3,912
Social sciences and services	61,65,67,71–74	5,452	1,567	352	8	1,366	301	310	443	9,799
Economics	62	704	1,452	1,082	–	165	176	68	120	3,767
Law, legal and public affairs	68	0	858	2,562	–	0	–	49	96	3,565
Education, teaching, social work	75	2516	926	1,169	503	774	468	85	124	6,565
Psychology	77	96	166	449	68	87	–	67	75	1,008
Culture and the arts	81, 82	800	606	11	–	107	5	56	67	1,652
Total	11 až 82	13,679	5,788	7,995	579	3,562	951	1,441	1,726	35,721

O – on-site studies, C – combined studies

Table 11 Student numbers at MU by subjects – Ba., long-cycle Ma., Ma., PhD

Groups of study fields	Study field codes	Students in degree programmes				Total
		Ba.	I-c Ma.	Ma.	PhD	
Natural sciences	11 až 18	3 595	125	907	826	5 453
Technical sciences	21 až 39	0	0	0	0	0
Agricultural, forestry, veterinary med.	41 až 43	0	0	0	0	0
Health, medical, pharmaceutical	51 až 53	729	2 245	157	781	3 912
Social sciences and services	61,65,67,71–74	7 019	360	1 667	753	9 799
Economics	62	2 156	1 082	341	188	3 767
Law, legal and public affairs	68	858	2 562	0	145	3 565
Education, teaching, social work	75	3 442	1 672	1 242	209	6 565
Psychology	77	262	517	87	142	1 008
Culture and the arts	81, 82	1 406	11	112	123	1 652
Total	11 až 82	19 467	8 574	4 513	3 167	35 721




Table 12 Student numbers at MU in Bachelor's and Master's on-site degree programmes in the last decade

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
LF	2,357 (2,256)	2,393 (2,245)	2,347 (2,174)	2,328 (2,174)	2,504 (2,247)	2,778 (2,351)	3,030 (2,435)	3,160 (2,457)	3,387 (2,545)	3,420 (2,562)
FM	1,577 (1,577)	1,685 (1,660)	1,764 (1,718)	1,794 (1,699)	1,928 (1,792)	2,092 (1,927)	2,313 (2,131)	2,597 (2,413)	2,806 (2,663)	3,131 (3,046)
FS	1,842 (1,842)	1,842 (1,842)	1,924 (1,924)	1,967 (1,967)	2,054 (2,054)	2,291 (2,291)	2,358 (2,330)	2,348 (2,261)	2,493 (2,373)	2,747 (2,618)
FA	2,800 (2,675)	2,426 (2,291)	2,556 (2,462)	2,681 (2,577)	3,212 (2,931)	4,055 (3,578)	5,103 (4,352)	5,627 (4,712)	6,621 (5,468)	7,493 (6,215)
FE	2,974 (2,135)	3,475 (2,441)	3,489 (2,261)	3,939 (2,278)	3,535 (1,959)	3,950 (2,194)	4,684 (2,705)	5,142 (3,182)	5,110 (3,341)	5,671 (3,857)
FEA	1,639 -984	1,931 (1,171)	2,138 (1,208)	2,237 (1,277)	2,451 (1,424)	2,897 (1,748)	3,095 (1,885)	3,268 (2,011)	3,391 (2,023)	3,579 (1,951)
FI	712 -711	904 -904	1,156 (1,156)	1,409 (1,409)	1,492 (1,492)	1,646 (1,646)	1,683 (1,683)	1,681 (1,681)	1,882 (1,882)	1,881 (1,881)
FSS	–	529 -529	820 -745	1,181 -912	1,568 (1,068)	1,729 (1,107)	1,936 (1,196)	2,371 (1,493)	2,905 (1,913)	3,503 (2,343)
FSpS	–	–	–	–	374 -374	684 -576	874 -670	1,109 -811	1,103 -772	1,129, (763)
MU	13,901 (12,180)	15,185 (13,083)	16,194, (13,648)	17,536 (14,293)	19,118 (15,341)	22,122, (17,418)	25,076 (19,387)	27,303 (21,021)	29,698 (22,980)	32,554 (25,236)

Table 13 Student/teacher ratio at MU

Faculty	1996/97	1997/98	1998/99	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
FL	35.05	33.63	33.03	34.24	32.57	36.08	40.06	41.19	45.84	47.13
FM	5.86	5.89	6.41	6.74	7.07	8.32	8.32	9.27	12.06	13.42
FS	10.22	11.43	11.34	11.71	12.03	12.23	12.68	12.89	13.22	13.6
FA	19.24	18.49	18.29	20.36	19.03	22.65	29.96	39.93	33.6	37.53
FE	14.85	17.4	20.11	21.21	18.75	17.28	28.03	27.79	28.1	29.01
FEA	21.88	28.98	32.99	36.16	37.71	40.35	48.93	48.14	41.79	41.85
FI	25.92	29.41	35.1	30.01	30.83	39.82	38.58	34.74	35.86	37.8
FSS	–	–	28.95	29.83	35.46	44.22	39.96	36.53	44.07	45.51
FSpS	–	–	–	–	–	–	15.08	17.76	18.92	15.74
MU	13.57	14.63	15.66	16.62	16.28	18.25	22.49	23.56	24.19	25.61

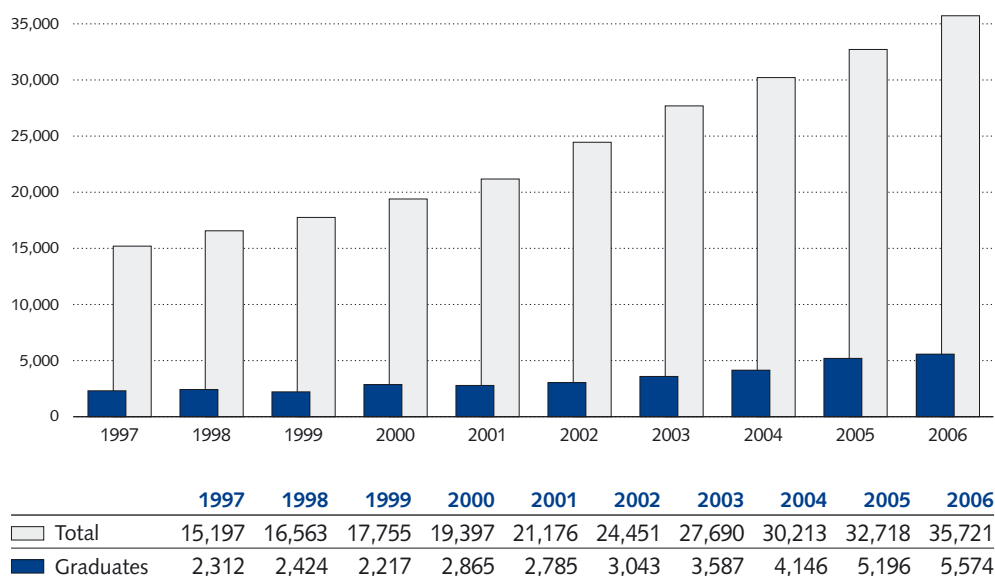
Graph 2 Student and graduate numbers at MU in the last decade


Table 14 MU graduates in 2006 by faculty

Faculty	Regular degree programmes										Total					
	On-site					Combined										
	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total	
FL	0	450	0	1	451	266	0	0	20	286	266	450	0	21	737	
FM	100	183	47	6	336	53	0	0	39	92	153	183	47	45	428	
FS	349	166	93	17	625	5	0	0	55	60	354	166	93	72	685	
FA	580	304	90	6	980	71	24	16	33	144	651	328	106	39	1,124	
FE	279	143	7	2	431	342	76	212	13	643	621	219	219	15	1,074	
FEA	35	237	64	1	337	187	0	0	4	191	222	237	64	5	528	
FI	171	22	111	1	305	0	0	0	5	5	171	22	111	6	310	
FSS	167	0	128	3	298	51	0	19	19	89	218	0	147	22	387	
FSpS	167	35	0	1	203	84	0	0	14	98	251	35	0	15	301	
Total	1,848	1,540	540	38	3,966	1,059	100	247	202	1,608	2,907	1,640	787	240	5,574	

Table 15 Graduate numbers at MU by fields of study

Groups of study fields	Study field codes	Students in degree programmes				Total
		Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	
Natural sciences	11 až 18	525	183	203	78	989
Technical sciences	21 až 39	–	–	–	–	–
Agricultural, forestry, veterinary med.	41 až 43	–	–	–	–	–
Health, medical, pharmaceutical	51 až 53	153	183	47	45	428
Social sciences and services	61,65,67,71–74	976	284	206	58	1,524
Economics	62	222	237	64	5	528
Law, legal and public affairs	68	266	450	0	21	737
Education, teaching, social work	75	646	224	232	16	1,118
Psychology	77	25	65	23	10	123
Culture and the arts	81, 82	94	14	12	7	127
Total	11 až 82	2,907	1,640	787	240	5,574

Graph 3 Graduate numbers at MU in the last decade

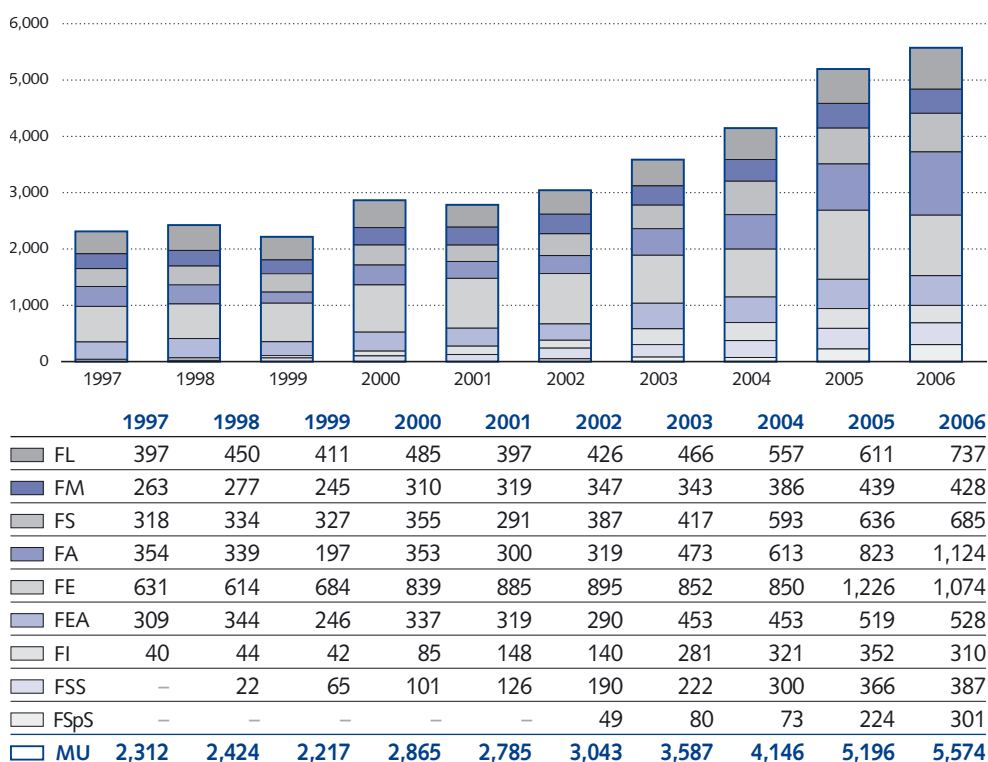




Table 16 Failure to complete studies in 2006 – by MU faculty

Faculty	Regular degree programmes										Total				
	On-site					Combined									
	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total	Ba.	I-c	Ma.	PhD	Total
FL	0	227	0	0	227	94	0	0	4	98	94	227	0	4	325
FM	67	190	7	15	279	4	0	0	44	48	71	190	7	59	327
FS	487	15	23	11	536	79	0	0	21	100	566	15	23	32	636
FA	683	36	46	2	767	261	7	8	15	291	944	43	54	17	1,058
FE	415	107	14	6	542	40	29	9	9	87	455	136	23	15	629
FEA	203	144	32	2	381	512	0	0	17	529	715	144	32	19	910
FI	589	5	34	6	634	0	0	0	7	7	589	5	34	13	641
FSS	173	0	42	5	220	253	0	18	17	288	426	0	60	22	508
FSpS	93	7	0	0	100	32	0	4	9	45	125	7	4	9	145
Total	2710	731	198	47	3,686	1275	36	39	143	1,493	3,985	767	237	190	5,179

Table 17 Failures by groups of study fields – Ba., I-c Ma., Ma., PhD

Groups of study fields	Study field codes	Failed students in degree programmes				Total
		Ba.	I-c Ma.	Ma.	PhD	
Natural sciences	11 až 18	1,155	20	57	45	1,277
Technical sciences	21 až 39	–	–	–	–	–
Agricultural, forestry, veterinary med.	41 až 43	–	–	–	–	–
Health, medical, pharmaceutical	51 až 53	71	190	7	59	327
Social sciences and services	61,65,67,71–74	1,226	27	98	35	1,386
Economics	62	715	144	32	19	910
Law, legal and public affairs	68	94	227	0	4	325
Education, teaching, social work	75	488	136	39	15	678
Psychology	77	34	20	2	12	68
Culture and the arts	81, 82	202	3	2	1	208
Total	11 až 82	3,985	767	237	190	5,179

Table 18 Failures by study modes – on-site and combined studies

Groups of stu-dy fields	Study field codes	Failed students in degree programmes								Total
		Ba.		I-c Ma.		Ma.		PhD		
		O	C	O	C	O	C	O	C	
Natural sciences	11 až 18	1,076	79	20	–	57	–	17	28	1,277
Technical sciences	21 až 39	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
Agricultural, forestry, veterinary med.	41 až 43	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	0
Health, medical, pharmaceutical	51 až 53	67	4	190	–	7	–	15	44	327
Social sciences and services	61,65,67,71–74	837	389	27	–	70	28	7	28	1,386
Economics	62	203	512	144	–	32	–	2	17	910
Law, legal and public affairs	68	0	94	227	–	0	–	0	4	325
Education, teaching, social work	75	441	47	107	29	28	11	6	9	678
Psychology	77	6	28	13	7	2	–	0	12	68
Culture and the arts	81, 82	80	122	3	–	2	–	0	1	208
Total	11 až 82	2,710	1,275	731	36	198	39	47	143	5,179

O – on-site studies, C – combined studies

Quality of Academic Life

An open approach to creating and evaluating degree programmes

New degree programmes and the extension of existing degree programmes through the addition of new fields of study are introduced in an open manner, in particular through the involvement of the relevant Senate as part of the consultative procedure as laid down by the Higher Education Act. However, there is also a general trend at MU towards the involvement of external entities outside the university sphere in the preparation of new degree programmes and fields of study. At the moment this phenomenon is most evident at the Faculty of Informatics, but in the form of innovation through the introduction of new courses

it can also be seen at the Faculty of Economics and Administration. The participation of the external sphere is the norm in the creation of degree programmes leading to professional qualifications (for example in the area of the health sciences) or the basis for such qualifications in university studies. The aim in the coming period will be create similar mechanisms in the area of the evaluation of degree programmes, where in fact a good basis already exists in many respects, for example in the form of the form of the repeated surveys of the employment status of its graduates carried out by MU.

System for evaluating the quality of education

Masaryk University emphasizes quality assurance at all levels of its activities, the quality of teaching and the quality of academic life itself. Quality monitoring at MU has been implemented by means of external and internal evaluation processes.

External evaluation

In addition to regular accreditation and re-accreditation of degree programmes, which is carried out by the Accreditation Commission in compliance with the Higher Education Act, in 2006 Masaryk University was selected (as the only Czech university) for inclusion in research into European universities being carried out as part of the Trends project, which is designed to evaluate the development of the higher education sphere in Europe. The results of this research, reflecting the conditions at the universities being examined and the views of their employees and students, will serve as an important basis for a conference of Ministers responsible for university education in Europe to be held in London in 2007.

Internal evaluation

Methodological guidelines for internal mechanisms of quality monitoring and evaluation at Masaryk University are the responsibility of the Strategy and Development Office at the MU Rector's Office, which works in close cooperation with other university Offices and faculty bodies. In 2006 the university also established a Quality Assurance Working Group consisting of representatives of all MU faculties.

The quality of individual activities and the university environment is subject to continual monitoring and evaluation in accordance with predefined criteria at many levels – of the university as a whole, of the individual faculties and of individual degree programmes

and fields of study. Material for making quality evaluations comes from thematically focused questionnaires, data from the MU Information System and the teaching evaluations made by the students.

Evaluation by MU students and graduates forms an integral part of the quality monitoring system, reflecting different stages of study as well as application of the education received in the employment sphere. Masaryk University employs a complex system of sociological surveys aimed at providing feedback. Periodic surveys are carried out among graduates: *Completion of Studies at MU – Looking Back and Looking Ahead and Employment Outcomes for MU Graduates*. These allowing for the monitoring of long-term trends in the success of the graduates on the job market, their satisfaction with the education they received and other selected information. Evaluation of the university environment and the quality of academic life is the subject of a university-wide questionnaire for students and employees. All types of surveys have enjoyed a relatively high percentage of respondents, which ensures the validity of the answers.

As far as the quality of university management is concerned, in addition to its *Strategic Plan* for the period 2006–2010, Masaryk University has also established a standard process of strategic planning on the faculty level. Evaluation of the implementation of the faculties' strategic plans is part of annual evaluation meetings between the university leadership and those of the individual faculties.

Another important instrument for monitoring and evaluating studies is the set of analytical tools developed in 2006 as part of the MU Information System, which allows for detailed analysis of the admission procedure and the progress of studies at MU (success rates, length of study, regional structure of applicants and students, etc.).



Student evaluations of quality

Student evaluation of teaching quality

In 2006 the students were again given a chance in both semesters to express their views on the quality of the courses they were studying by filling in a questionnaire. This is an important tool for testing the quality of teaching from the point of view of the students as those utilizing the university's educational services. Its integration into the MU Information System resulted in a high response rate with simultaneous assurance of anonymity and reliability. Detailed answers concerning the individual courses and teachers are used by the teachers as stimuli for their work and as a form of feedback.

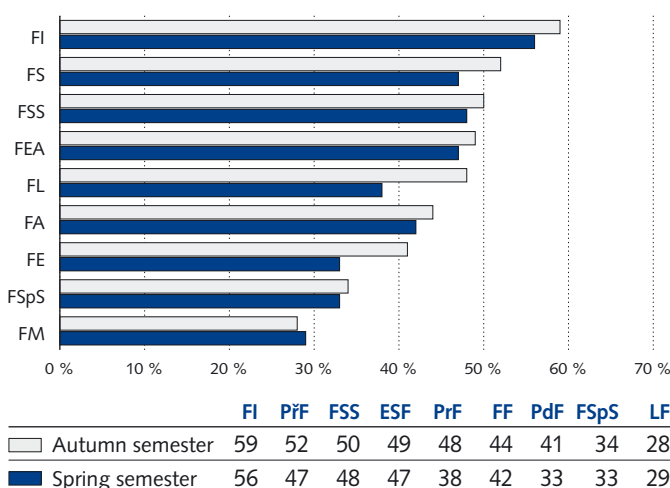
In the spring semester 2006 the course questionnaire was returned by 11,421 respondents (40% of all MU students) and in the autumn semester by 15,070 respondents (44% of MU students). The highest proportion of responses came from students of the Faculty of Informatics, where the response rate reached 56% in the spring semester and 59% in the autumn semester.

The electronic collection of responses by the MU Information System allows for easy processing of respective statistics and comparisons. The students may express their opinions on the course as a whole as well as on individual teachers. Seven questions focus on the attractiveness, usefulness and difficulty of the course, how demanding the preparatory work is,

the availability of resources, how the teacher teaches and his or her professional competence.

After the collection of data, statistical surveys of the responses are published. The responses may also include free text comments, which are only available to the respective teachers.

Graph 4 Participation in student questionnaires – spring and autumn 2006



Development of university counselling

In compliance with the Higher Education Act, Masaryk University provides university counselling services to students and other persons. This activity is organized by the Student Advisory Centre, which is part of the Rector's Office. The Advisory Centre offers services relating to studies and students' future careers, psychological help and legal advice.

Activities relating to studies and future careers include not only training in communication and other skills but also career help in the form of presentations by prospective employers. This past year first-year students were invited to participate in a two-day information and introduction workshop.

Psychological help is provided through individual and group sessions and the activity of the psychologists is monitored and evaluated on a regular basis.

Legal advice deals with issues related to position of students who are employed, tax questions, social security and state social support benefits, and so on.

In 2006 advice was given on 2,838 occasions, of which 974 were individual meetings and 1,864 group activities. Psychological help was given on 1,377 occasions (of which 563 were individual and 894 involved groups), study and professional consultancy on 1,293 occasions (of which 399 were individual and 894 for groups) and legal advice on 168 occasions (of which 12 were individual and 156 involved groups).

Support for success on the job market

In 2006 the Student Advisory Centre organized a questionnaire for those graduating in on-site Master's courses at MU for the tenth time. The questionnaire focused on mapping their transition to the world of employment and providing a retrospective evaluation of the education they had received at Masaryk University. The survey, carried out in May and June – i.e. at the time of the final state examinations – was completed out by 789 students from all nine faculties. They represented nearly one half (47.1%) of all those currently graduating.

At the time of the questionnaire half of the "new alumni" were already working or knew who their first employer would be. One-third wanted to work but had not yet found a job or had not yet started looking for work. The remaining one-fifth of the graduates were not planning to start working in the near future. Most of these were students who had decided to go on to doctoral studies or were planning to spend some time abroad or continue with some other form of university studies.

Student accommodation

As usual, the university residences were operating at full capacity at the beginning of the 2005/2006 academic year, and vacancies only began to occur gradually in the spring semester. The average occupancy rate over the nine months of teaching was 95%. During the summer vacation the only residences that were open were those at Kounicova, bří Žůrků, Klácelova and Vinařská. International students were able to remain in the Vinařská and Kounicova residences over the summer, which guaranteed them a place for the following academic year. Czech students made little use of this opportunity, in part because they are not able to sign accommodation contracts for more than one year. In the summer months the four residences that were open provided accommodation for an average of 400 students, which was about 200 more than in the previous year. The increase was solely due to international students, whose numbers continue to increase every year. Residences with better facilities showed greater commercial use in the summer.

In the 2006/2007 academic year the criteria for allocating places in the MU residences remained the same as in the previous year. A total of 1,500 places was reserved for students enrolling for the first time in Bachelor's, long-cycle Master's and Master's courses at MU. The traditional criteria continued to apply for students in higher years: distance from home, social and health criteria and study results. The accommodation of second and higher-year students was implemented in two stages. In the first stage places were allocated to doctoral students, handicapped students, members of residence committees, international students and part of the students meeting the given criteria. In the second stage places not taken up by first-year students were allocated on the basis of the waiting list and compliance with the criteria.

The number of applications for accommodation remains roughly the same every year. As of 4 September 2006 the Accommodation and Catering Services had received 7,182 applications, which was 148 more than at the same time in the previous year.

Altogether 4,652 applications were dealt with; 1,549 students did not take up the place they had been allocated. International students, both those in regular degree programmes and those on exchanges, were allocated 227 places at the commencement of the academic year.

As of the end of 2006 the Accommodation and Catering Services provided accommodation for 1,215 students from the Slovak Republic and 298 international students of other nationalities.

Catering

The catering service runs three university canteens and six cafeterias, providing hot meals and a selection of other hot and cold foods for students, university employees and other customers.

Every day its kitchens prepare 9 ready-made lunches, 3 ready-made dinners and 16 meals made to order.

As part of its efforts to improve quality and follow modern trends, in 2006 the catering service extended its selection of main dishes by adding pastas with various types of sauces and, at lunch, selection of vegetables with dressing.

Additions and changes were introduced in the area of cold foods, dairy products, pastries, fruits and vegetable in line with customers' wishes and the fluctuation of market prices of various food products.

A further major innovation for students was the provision of special-diet meals at St. Anne's Faculty Hospital, beginning in April 2006.

Responding to the market, in April 2006 the catering service reduced the price of hot meals by 5% on average for students and MU employees benefiting from meal subsidies. This measure did not apply to MU employees using meal vouchers.

The HACCP system is used for ensuring quality; this applies to all catering facilities on a daily basis. Regular samplings of ready-made meals are made, as well as checks on the weights of meat and meat products. To ensure external inspection, the Accommodation and Catering Services signed an agreement with the Department of Preventive Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine that has introduced regular monthly sample checks by staff of the department.

The catering service played an important role in many events and activities organized by MU as well as other entities, among them the Czech Academic Games, Dies Academicus, the Faculty of Economics and Administration's 15th anniversary celebration, receptions at individual faculties, the TOP 77 wine competition and MU's annual Garden Party.

Table 19 Masaryk University residences

Residence	Address	Number of beds as of 31 December 2006
Vinařská	Vinařská 5, 603 00 Brno	1,169
Tvrdého	Tvrdého 5/7, 602 00 Brno	358
Kounicova	Kounicova 50, 602 00 Brno	596
Mánesova	Mánesova 12c, 612 00 Brno	349
Klácelova	Klácelova 2, 602 00 Brno	313
nám. Míru	nám. Míru 4, 602 00 Brno	247
Veveří	Veveří 29, 602 00 Brno	70
bří Žůrků	bří Žůrků 5, 617 00 Brno	479
Sladkého	Sladkého 13, 617 00 Brno	432
Lomená	Lomená 48, 617 00 Brno	168
VUT	Kolejní 2, 612 00 Brno	0
Total		4,181





Table 20 Accommodation capacity 2002–2006

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07
Planned capacity	3,789	3,789	3,789	3,789	3,789
Actual capacity	4,287	4,287	4,291	4,294	4,487, ¹
Number of student beds	4,174	4,175	4,179	4,181	4,124
Number of applications	7,863	7,393	8,101	7,034	7,182
Total number of students in regular degree programmes	24,451	27,690	30,195	32,718	40,556
Beds for MU guests	106	106	168	170	332
International exchange students	80	80	135	190	270

¹ Including University Hotel, Cíkháj Centre and Šlapanice Centre

Table 21 Structure of accommodation available to MU

Academic year	MU	BUT	Other	Total	Index
2002/2003	4,174	170	52	4 396	130.0
2003/2004	4,175	170	0	4 345	128.7
2004/2005	4,179	170	0	4 349	128.8
2005/2006	4,181	0	0	4 181	96.1
2006/2007	4,124	0	–	4 124	98.6

Table 22 Masaryk University canteens

Canteen	Production capacity	Address	Cafeterias
Vinařská	2,000	Vinařská 5, 603 00 Brno	FEA, Vinařská, Kounicova 50, Morfo buffet, FI buffet
Moravské náměstí	2,000	Moravské nám. 9, 602 00 Brno	FM
Veveří	1,700	Veveří 70, 602 00 Brno	Veveří

Table 23 Numbers of meals served in MU canteens

Canteen	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Moravské nám.	369,256	375,357	345,396	330,091	314,470
Vinařská	251,359	244,281	288,970	294,878	295,574
Veveří	129,747	139,604	197,037	199,548	209,841
Total	750,362¹	759,242	831,403	824,517	819,885

¹ 2002 was recalculated owing to a change in methodology (the transfer of cafeterias to Vinařská canteen and deduction of meals for MU events)

Accommodation grants

In 2006 Masaryk University again provided its students with grants to help pay for accommodation, thus continuing in the transformation of public support for university student accommodation from a subsidy for accommodation in student dormitories to grants allocated pursuant to the university's Scholarship and Bursary Regulations. In order to determine students' eligibility for an accommodation grant, Masaryk University incorporated into its Scholarship and Bursary Regulations most of the regulations stipulated by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, which it uses to allocate funding for accommodation support grants to the individual public universities.

In 2006 the conditions for being given an accommodation support grant were met by 13,360 MU students. Following update of the data in the student register with the data in the Central Student Registry, evaluation of the applications submitted and consideration of exemptions granted to handicapped students, accommodation support grants were made to 13,392 students, more than half of all on-site students at MU.

The remaining applications for the grant were deemed ineligible; only three of the students affected appealed this decision. In none of the three cases was there incorrect data in the student register and all three appeals were turned down. One grant was withdrawn.

In 2006 Masaryk University paid out 86.533 million CZK in accommodation support grants, of which 20,000 CZK came from funding remaining from 2005.

Study-related fees

Masaryk University's concern for the social conditions of students was also reflected in its willingness to waive, reduce or defer the payment of study-related fees made possible by the Higher Education Act. In 2006 1,644 appeals were made in connection with study-related fees. These were waived in 498 cases, and reduced or deferred in 493 cases; the other appeals were turned down.

As a consequence of an amendment to the Higher Education Act, the latter half of 2006 saw a new definition of the period of time for which study-related fees are charged; the original period of a semester is now six commenced months of study.

Decisions in these matters are governed by the relevant provisions of the MU Statutes, which stipulate the principles guiding the Rector's in his decision-making.

Bursaries

In December 2006 Masaryk University first paid out bursaries to students facing difficult social conditions, pursuant to sub-section 91 (3) of the Higher Education Act. The claims were determined on the basis of materials provided by state social security offices. The conditions for grants of this type of bursary were met by more than 580 students.

The value of the bursary is stipulated by law and amounts to 1,620 CZK a month. The bursary is paid out to students in two instalments for the whole period of the bursary, as decided by Rector's Decision 1/2006.

Student awards

The Rector's Award for the best students in Master's courses at MU

Bc. Jiří Šimša

Enrolled in the degree programme in Informatics, field of study Informatics, Faculty of Informatics

Bc. Vojtěch Adam

Enrolled in the degree programme in Chemistry, field of study Analytical Chemistry, Faculty of Science

Bc. Jan Závěšický

Enrolled in the degree programme in International Area Studies, field of study International Relations and European Studies, Faculty of Social Studies

The Rector's Award for outstanding sports achievement

Eva Vítečková

Enrolled in the Bachelor's degree programme in Physical Training and Sports, field of study Regeneration and Nutrition in Sport, Faculty of Sports Studies



Educational Activities as a Public Service

Increasing accessibility for disadvantaged groups

Support Centre for Students with Special Needs

The Support Centre for Students with Special Needs is responsible for disabled students at Masaryk University. In view of the increasing numbers of students with impaired vision or hearing at Masaryk University – among the highest among European higher education institutions – as well as the need to provide these students with a suitable environment for the studies, including wheelchair access, the university signed a cooperation agreement with IBM Czech Republic on 20 September 2006 in which IBM committed itself to providing with Masaryk University with specialized hardware and software. Thanks to this cooperation the university facility for disabled students includes 44 workplaces in computer classrooms and other rooms.

In the 2006/2007 academic year there were 84 students at Masaryk University with no or impaired vision (compared to 65 in the previous year). The proportion of students of Masaryk University with impaired vision corresponds to the proportion of those with impaired vision in the general population of the country. This makes MU unique among Czech universities, and it should be added that at some faculties, thanks to specific technical and organizational features, the proportion is even higher. The Support Centre for Students with Special Needs has organized 46 individualized semester-long courses in specialized lecture rooms for these students, personal assistance and help with spatial orientation. In 2006 the number of books in Braille at university libraries passed the 1000 mark, with the number of adapted titles available in electronic format being three times higher. In 2006 Masaryk University issued over 25,000 pages printed in Braille for blind students of other universities and secondary schools. This also promoted the development of lifelong education for those with severely impaired vision.

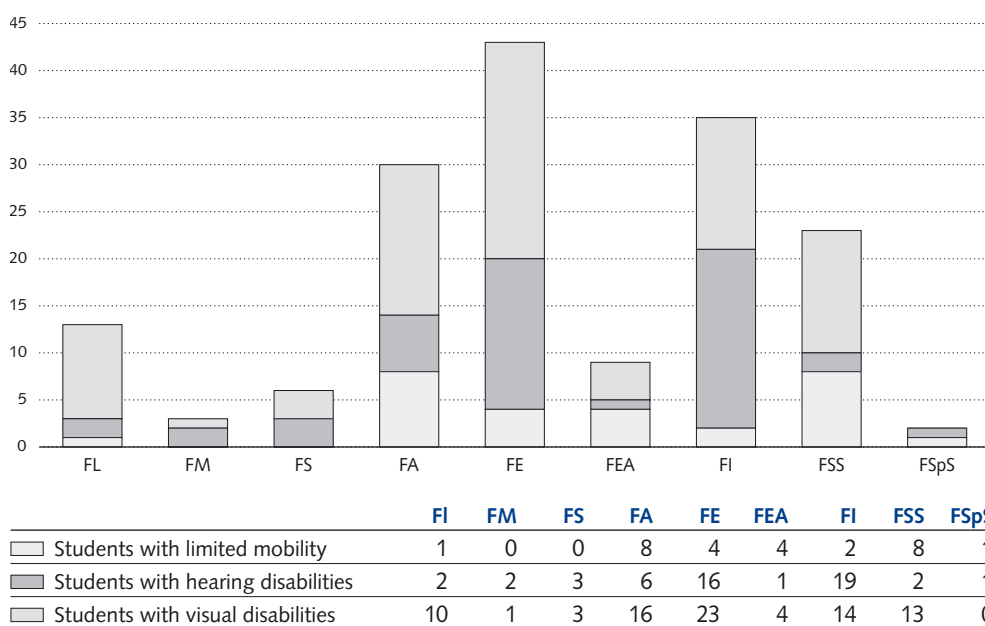
The number of students with impaired hearing at Masaryk University in the 2006/2007 academic year increased to 52 from 33 in the previous year. This is another area in which Masaryk University holds the leading position in the Czech Republic, allowing studies in the Czech sign language at all faculties. To meet the provisions of Act No 155/1998, which grants people with impaired hearing the right to use sign language and the right to education in sign language, in 2006 Masaryk University employed three full-time in-house interpreters of sign language, who, together with another 10 external interpreters, provided sign language interpreting services, something

unparalleled at other universities. This has led to the integration of students with severely impaired hearing in various fields of study at most faculties, which contrasts to the traditional concentration of these students in a few selected specializations. Masaryk University provides these students with special courses in the Czech and English languages, independently of the subject they major in.

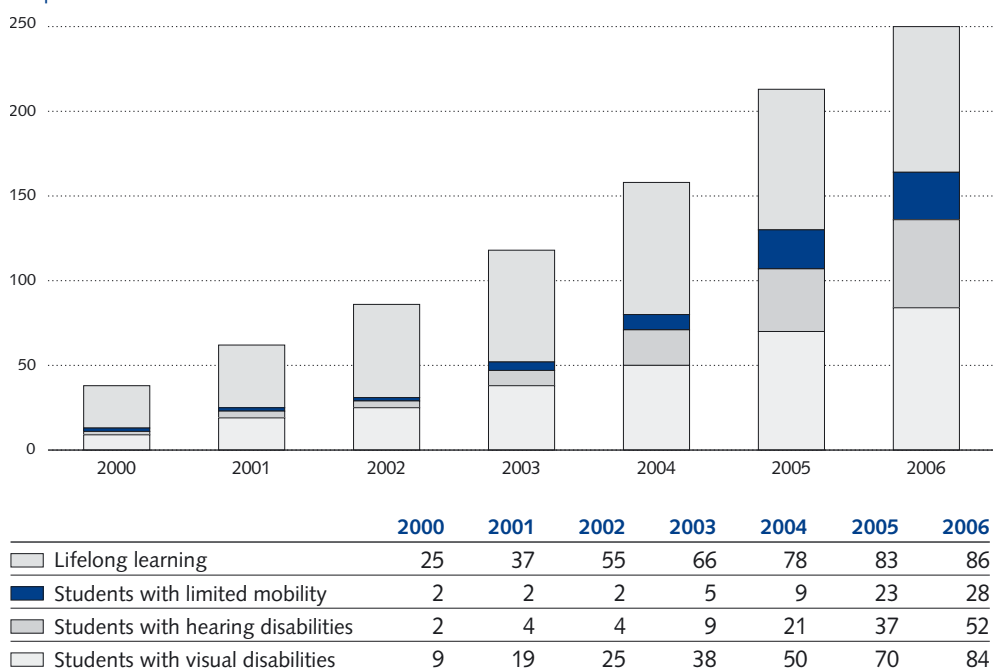
The number of students with limited mobility at Masaryk University in the academic year 2006/2007 increased from 16 to 28. Personal assistance to these students at the university dispatching centre was further professionalized (including student self-assistance in lessons and the introduction of trained assistants at MU residences) and other measures for the improvement of conditions for students with limited mobility were adopted.

Since 2000 Masaryk University has organized special entrance examinations for disabled students. With the use of information technologies and alternative methods of communication and perception, the handicapped students are thus enabled to pass the standard written entrance examination. In the admission procedures for the 2006/2007 academic year applications to study at MU were filed by 193 severely disabled individuals (persons with limited work ability or holders of disability certificates) who applied to sit the entrance examination using a special form of communication. This represented an increase of around 50% in comparison with the previous year, when 122 persons applied. About one-tenth of the applicants enrolled in the preparatory courses organized by the Support Centre for Students with Special Needs. The increase in numbers of handicapped students is complemented by the fact that in 2006 Masaryk University received two national grants from the European Social Fund in the Czech Republic for which it was the principal investigator. These dealt with integration modules in tertiary and in secondary education for individuals with sensory disabilities.

Graph 5 Numbers of disabled students at MU faculties 2006 (in absolute numbers)



Graph 6 Numbers of disabled students at MU





Support for the development of regional activities in education

University Centre in Telč

In 2006 the University Centre Telč (UCT) started the third year of its activity as a decentralized Masaryk University centre. It has been firmly integrated into the organizational structure of MU as a specialized unit, functioning with financial independence since 1 January 2005.

The mission of the UCT for 2006 was defined as follows:

- support for and provision of services for activities of MU faculties in Telč (the organization of teaching and teaching-related activities)
- administration and maintenance of the UCT building
- provision of services to external entities on a commercial basis

Combined Bachelor's studies and lifelong learning were carried out at Telč in the spring semester by 89 students (81 students of the Faculty of Economics and Administration and 8 students of the Faculty of Arts), while in the autumn semester there were 207 students (152 students of the FEA and 55 students of the FA).

On 13 October 2006 lectures of the Third Age University started with the degree programme Art history and Visual Culture. The course was taken by 79 seniors.

In the course of 2006 purchases were made of another four data projectors, two LCD TV sets for video conferencing, a multi DVD recorder with VCR, while 20 new PCs were transferred to the UCT from the central MU stocks. A lecture room for 60 students was completely furnished. At present seven lecture rooms are equipped with data projectors, of which five are provided with Internet connection, and the large lecture hall for 90 students is equipped for video conferencing. Last year this equipment allowed more than 20% of the lectures of the Faculty of Economics and Administration to be delivered via on-line transfer from Brno.

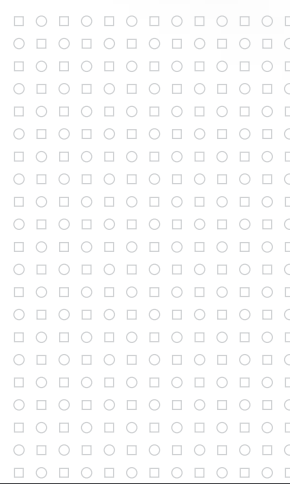
In August 2006, on the basis of an agreement signed between MU and the Regional Council of the Vysočina Region, books worth 300,000 CZK were transferred from the regional library to the UCT. As part of the university project Partnership in Education the first seminar was held in November 2006 for educational counsellors of partner secondary schools, the topic being "Career Education for Secondary Schools Educational Counsellors".



Team work and research projects

“ In 2006, in harmony with the Strategic Plan for the period until 2010 and its update for 2006, the university again saw excellent teamwork in the area of general and applied research, especially in the long-term research plans, research centres and centres for basic research.

Besides the traditional high level of research work in disciplines of the natural sciences, medicine, informatics and some of the social sciences, last year saw the attainment of outstanding research results in other areas as well (the humanities, economics and law), thus confirming and extending Masaryk University's status as a leading research university. ”



Research

3

Team work and research projects

By its very nature and through its many interconnected activities, Masaryk University is a research university. This can be seen clearly in the close relationship between research and teaching in its doctoral and Master's degree programmes, including specific efforts to internationalize the doctoral studies programme, especially in the form of doctorates with dual recognition, as well as in the large number of successful research projects over a wide range of disciplines currently being pursued at the university. In 2006, in harmony with the *Strategic Plan* for the period until 2010 and its update for 2006, the university again saw excellent teamwork in the area of general and applied research, especially in the long-term research plans, research centres and centres for basic research already begun in 2005, as well as new research projects and centres commenced in 2006. The university was unusually successful in the drive to obtain funding for these research and development projects as well as in the research results achieved in these projects. Besides the traditional high level of research work in disciplines of the natural sciences, medicine, informatics and some of the social sciences, last year saw the attainment of outstanding research results in other areas as well (the humanities, economics and law), thus confirming and extending Masaryk University's status as a leading research university.

Faculty of Law

In the area of academic research, the link between the national and European dimensions of the issues being examined has been emphasized in recent years. This trend forms the background for a re-

search project begun in 2005 entitled "The European Context of Changes in Czech Law after 2004"; it continues to be one of the faculty's priority research projects. In 2006 faculty researchers were also involved in projects of the Czech Science Foundation focusing on issues of the legal regulation of regional and municipal government in the Czech Republic and legal means for dealing with accumulated ecological damage.

In 2006 the 8th annual Student Academic Competition was held, with a focus on private and public law and information technology law. As always, the Czech Republic's highest judicial body, the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Public Prosecutor's Office, the Office of the Ombudsman and representatives of the private legal community supported the competition by setting the topics and awarding special prizes.

Faculty of Medicine

Research activity at the Faculty of Medicine is carried out by the academic departments through projects supported by the Czech Science Foundation and other grant agencies; in the area of health care, academics of the faculty and the faculty hospitals work on pre-clinical and clinical projects supported by the Ministry of Health. Long-term research plans and research centres at the Faculty of Medicine bring together teams focusing on individual research priorities, such as cardiovascular illnesses and cancer, the study of brain function and repair processes, the use of stem cells in medicine, the study of cell and tissue regulation and the testing of new methods and materials in dental medicine. Other activities leading to a

concentration of the most advanced and promising programmes in biomedical research include the creation of an innovative environment and support for academic entrepreneurship in the area of biomedicine. These efforts are developed in close cooperation with the Faculty of Science and the Institute of Biophysics of the Czech Academy of Sciences at the Integrated Laboratories for Biomedical Technologies (ILBIT), which are located on the new university campus.

Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science is a highly productive faculty, the most successful faculty at the university in gaining funding for its long-term research plans and basic research centres. It concentrates especially on specifically focused research, which creates the best conditions for balanced development in the individual natural sciences. A portion of the research capacity is directed toward non-focused and non-specific research connected with teaching, particularly at the doctoral studies level. The main research and development activities are based on long-term trends in the individual major disciplines: biology, physics, Earth sciences, chemistry and biochemistry, and mathematics.

Research in the field of biology is focused especially on monitoring changes in space and time in the diversity of populations and communities of higher plants and animals, the growth and stress physiology of plants in relation to the environment, and complex molecular biological analysis of the genomes of representatives of the major groups of organisms. Research in physics is concentrated on material and plasma applications, astrophysics and theoretical physics. Earth Sciences focus on geological processes and the development of biotas in the geological past, on current environmental problems, the creation of spatial geo-informational infrastructures, the development of methods of cartographic geo-visualization, and the geographic and ecological study of vegetation oases in Antarctica. Research in the field of chemistry includes study of the chemical and physical properties of chemical compounds, structural analysis, organic and inorganic synthesis, photochemistry, environmental chemistry, computer modelling of chemical processes, and in biochemistry the structure and functions of bio-organic molecules and their role in the metabolism and enzymology. Areas of concentration in mathematics include differential equations and statistical models, and mathematical structures in algebra and geometry and their applications in informatics and physics.

Faculty of Arts

Research at the Faculty of Arts is carried out in line with general long-term development trends and the faculty's strategic plan for research, whose main goal is the gradual creation of a strong research faculty. In 2006 research at the Faculty of Arts was particularly successful. In work based on research grants and other targeted funding members of the Faculty benefited from long-term development trends in the individual research areas. In addition to a number of individual research projects, as a rule supported by the Czech

Science Foundation, the Grant Agency of the Czech Academy of Science, the University Development Fund and Transformation and Development Programmes, the role of extensive collective research projects extending over several years was strengthened, including long-term research plans and multi-lateral interdisciplinary and international projects.

One of the main areas of research continued to be history and art history research focused on the pre-history and history of Moravia. The unifying element of the research carried out by all the departments and disciplines involved in this project is the territory of Moravia as a basic geographic, organizational and structural unit in the Central European historical model. This research involves the Department of History, the Department of Archaeology and Museum Studies and the Department of Art History.

Linguistic research is concentrated on Classical studies (especially Mycenaean Greek, Greek dialectology and medieval Latin, in all of which the university has a European reputation) and general linguistics (comparative Indo-European linguistics and synchronic structural linguistics of the Czech language). In 2006 the different philology departments, headed by the Department of Classical Studies, concentrated on mutual cooperation culminating in the preparation of a long-term research plan focusing on ancient languages and older forms of modern languages.

Other significant research activities include Slavonic languages and literatures (the "Brno comparative – genological school"), Czech language studies (the development of Old and Middle Czech), and Western European languages and cultures (Canadian Studies, Latin American Studies, Czech-German Studies).

Philosophical studies are concentrated on the history of modern Czech thought and contemporary ontology in relation to the natural sciences. Recent developments include extended research on religion and pedagogy. Research on religion follows new religious movements and the evolution of Tibetan Buddhism. In 2006 a project in the 6th framework programme was prepared in this area. The Department of Educational Sciences participated in several large international projects; these dealt with qualitative growth of graduates, improvement of the quality of education and professional training for future teachers, special pedagogy and psychology. Research in the area of psychology focused on the issue of a deficit of cognitive functions and psychology of the personality.

Musicologists are working on music lexicography, the history of hymnals in the Czech lands as well as Czech musical culture in the 20th century, focusing on Leoš Janáček. Research in the visual media is focused on the use of technology in the presentation of the performing arts, historical poetics and rhetoric, and the history of film.

Faculty of Education

In 2006, as before, the faculty emphasized research and development in the areas of educational and pedagogical disciplines – pedagogy, general didactics, teaching of the individual disciplines, special pedagogy, social pedagogy and child psychology – as



these follow from the main purpose of the faculty, which is the professional preparation of teachers for all types and levels of education. In addition the individual departments carried out research projects in their particular subject areas (history, geography, linguistics etc.)

The faculty is involved in one research project that by its very nature brings together experts from nearly all departments at the faculty. "The School and Health in the 21st Century" is a team project in this preferred field that was started in 2005 following the successfully-defended research project Teachers of Health (1999–2004). Since 1 March 2006 (and running until 2010) the faculty has been linked with the Centre for Basic Research Centre on School Education supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport and coordinated by the Faculty of Education at Charles University in Prague. Pedagogical and didactic issues are also dealt with in some of the ten projects funded by the Czech Science Foundation in which the faculty is involved. Traffic education is the subject of three projects that form part of the National Research Programme II (Ministry of Education) and NPV TP 3 (Ministry of Transport). The faculty is also involved in additional projects funded by other bodies (the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Culture, the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Jan Hus Educational Foundation, etc.). As in every year the Department of History carried out summer archaeological research at the Great Moravian site at St Hypolitus in Znojmo-Hradiště, something unique among Czech Faculties of Education.

The faculty supports research activity by its Master's degree and doctoral students through a system of grants for research projects; in 2006 there were 63 of these, with grants amounting to 1,494,000 CZK.

On 30 November the Faculty organized the first conference for doctoral students, "Research into Current Issues of Pedagogy and Subject Didactics (in Doctoral Dissertations)". The conference was attended by 61 (mainly on-site) students, 50 of whom presented papers, with 40 of these being published later in the proceedings of the conference. Besides the presenters, the conference attracted an audience of around 90 other participants, many of them thesis supervisors.

The artistic activities of teachers in the Departments of Music and Fine Arts are an integral part of the Faculty of Education's work, representing not only the faculty but the university as a whole.

Faculty of Economics and Administration

The direction of the faculty's research activities stems from the structure of the individual disciplines and the direction of their activities. Research focuses on the following areas in particular: analysis of the macro-economic development of major economic characteristics, structural aspects of the development of the Czech economy, monetary policy and macroeconomic stabilization, the institutional position, economic policy and economic theory of railway transport; the development of monetary-economic relations in Moravia, the financial system of the

Czech Republic; developmental tendencies in the organizational structures of businesses and business economics, evaluation of the efficiency of firms, the use of human resources by firms, the development of businesses' financial management in the context of European economic integration, the identification of sector clusters in the South Moravia Region, support for small and medium-sized businesses; the efficiency of the public sector, the workings of the non-governmental non-profit sector, public-sector management and budgeting; regional development and its economic aspects; regional information systems, methods for creating strategic and programme documents in the tourist industry.

In addition to grants obtained through the Czech Science Foundation the faculty is also involved in research projects funded by the Ministry for Regional Development, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education.

Faculty of Informatics

The faculty's research activities are concentrated at its thirteen research laboratories, two of which were opened in 2006: the Design and Architecture of Digital Systems Laboratory and the Knowledge and Information Robots Laboratory. Students are involved in research at the laboratories within their Master's and doctoral programmes.

In 2006 the faculty was involved in one long-term research plan – Highly Parallel and Distributed Computer Systems. In addition, it is also part of a 1M research centre – the Institute of Theoretical Informatics – and of three LC basic research centres: the Centre for Computational Linguistics, Dynamics and Organization of Chromosomes during Normal and Pathological Cell Cycles and the Centre of Computer Graphics. The faculty also carried out 44 national projects funded by the Czech Science Foundation, the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Grant Agency of the Czech Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of Education, the International Grant Agency of the Ministry of Health, the National Security Office and the Ministry of Informatics. The faculty was also involved in the 6th Framework Programme, acting as co-principal investigator for two network of excellence projects, NoE DELOS and NoE FIDIS.

Faculty of Social Studies

Research activities by the faculty focus primarily on current topics of the social sciences in Europe and elsewhere. Work concentrates specifically on the following areas: social, cultural and institutional conditions of active citizenship; political theory, political systems, research on political parties and the representation of interests under conditions of multi-level governance, European integration, the Europeanization of actors in the political system, security aspects of international relations, the foreign policy of selected actors, the theory of international relations.

Further issues include social transformation (in the broadest sense of the term), with special focus on social reproduction including issues involving the reproduction of families, changes in the opportunities

on and forms of participation in the labour market and their reflection in social inequality, family life, and so on. Other issues are the causes, forms and results of social exclusion, social cohesion and the integration of ethnicities, minorities and marginalized groups and their identity, and current demographic trends. Social transformation is linked with studies of the role of the social state, especially with regard to employment policy, social policy, local policies for social and social work services (including work in Roma communities).

Major areas of interest also include children, youth and the family – development trends, the development of the personality in the context of family transformation and modern society, emerging social relationships, related intervention programmes such as consultancy, etc.

Further focuses are on the question of an environment-friendly lifestyle in the context of the individualization of the society and historical and contemporary perceptions of the nature of the cultural landscape.

Faculty of Sports Studies

The Faculty of Sports Studies directs its research activities toward the field of kinanthropology – a field dealing with the physical movements of human beings in the broadest sense.

Kinanthropology is a multidisciplinary field that ties into a number of other disciplines – biomechanics, psychology, sociology, physiology, medicine – and overlaps with them in the context of human movement. Academic and research activities focus on three basic priority areas – structural and developmental kinanthropology, social, cultural and pedagogic kinanthropology, and medical kinanthropology. Applied research brings important practical observations in the area of physical activities and sport at school and recreation, for both healthy persons and those in weaker health, of all age categories, at all levels of physical capability.

Institute of Computer Science

The long-term focus of research and development at the Institute of Computer Science is a set of four preferred areas: parallel and distributed systems – grids; digital libraries and their application; the use of information and communication technologies for the collection, transfer, processing, archiving and dissemination of digitalized images for medicine; and

finally the development of special equipment on the basis of programmable hardware.

International Institute of Political Science

In 2006, the activities of the International Institute of Political Science were focused primarily on producing publications and organizing academic seminars and conferences. The IIPS continues to serve as a coordinator of research projects in the field of political science, helping to provide appropriate venues for presentation (conferences, publications, etc.). The research activities of the IIPS concentrate on four thematically focused research programmes: “European Integration”, “European Regionalism”, “Modern Politics” and “Transatlantic Relations and Security”. Each of these programmes is devoted to a specific set of issues, and together they cover a wide spectrum of issues.

In 2006 the IIPS dealt mainly with the phenomenon of European integration and the various aspects of the transformation of the institutional structure of the EU, as well as with the study of regional development and regional interests. It continued its research on modern politics in the Czech Republic and Central Europe, and made significant progress in the examination of transatlantic relations, with special emphasis on the security relationship between the USA and the EU.

Regional Development Centre

In 2006 the research activities of this interdisciplinary institute were oriented on case studies dealing with issues of regional development. The case studies involved evaluation of a series of surveys commissioned by regional governments (South Moravia, Liberec and Vysočina) on unemployment, manufacturing, the tourist industry and recreation. Special attention was devoted to a survey for the needs of the City of Brno (the retail network, the employment structure and the management of industrial firms).

International cooperation in science and research

One of the requirements for successful research and development is effective cooperation between research teams. The various departments and other units of Masaryk University have long been engaged in cooperation with institutions abroad that cultivate scholarship and participate in research and development, mainly on the university level, but also with academic institutes that are not primarily engaged in teaching. Most of this cooperation is conducted on the

basis of signed agreements, but there has also been a great deal of informal cooperation leading to joint publication of results and the organization of international conferences, seminars and other professional events. Cooperation with foreign institutions, especially universities, is an important prerequisite for the internationalization of doctoral studies. This has made it possible to introduce what are referred to as double doctoral degrees. At present there are eleven students at the university studying under this



programme: six at the Faculty of Science, four at the Faculty of Arts (all in cooperation with institutions in France), and one at the Faculty of Informatics (Italy). International cooperation is also conducted through the university's research centres and its basic research centres. Several faculties establish and cultivate the international cooperation of teams leading to involvement in projects in the context of the 7th Framework Programme. Successful cooperation has been started by Masaryk University with Komenský University in Bratislava in the area of doctoral programmes.

Faculty of Law

The Faculty of Law has traditionally been involved in organizing academic conferences and seminars aimed at studying key questions in individual legal disciplines; these are attended by leading Czech and foreign scholars. Some of them form a traditional part of the faculty's academic life, among them the international conference Kyberprostor (Cyberspace) 2006, organized by the Faculty of Law in cooperation with the Faculty of Social Studies, and the conference Czech Legal Thought and Logic. Others were held in the context of various research projects or on topical themes of legal theory and practice, such as the new Labour Code and Administration Code, the issue of computer crime, the common asylum space, etc. Another significant event was the conference entitled Competition and Competitiveness (15 Years of Protection of Economic Competition in the Czech Republic), held under the auspices of President Václav Klaus by the Office for the Protection of Competition and the Brno Chamber of Commerce in the Faculty of Law.

The faculty's teachers and doctoral students played an active part in academic conferences and seminars abroad, studied at foreign institutions in Europe and the USA, took part in the activities of international organizations, and participated as consultants in the activities of bodies of the Council of Europe.

Successful longstanding cooperation continued with traditional partners of the Faculty of Law, including the John Marshall Law School in Chicago and the Fordham Centre on European Law in New York. Cooperation and inter-university exchange agreements initiated by the faculty were signed with the University of Lodz and the University of Bialystok in Poland.

Faculty of Medicine

An important part of the specialized work of the faculty's clinics and Centre for Biostatistics and Analyses is conducting clinical studies and testing new medicines and methods of treatment in cooperation with international pharmaceutical firms. Traditionally the faculty has specialized in international programmes in medicinal epidemiology and prevention. Four teams are members of teams implementing projects financed by the EU.

Cooperation based on bilateral agreements continued with partners in Dallas (Southwestern Medical School Dallas) and Birmingham (University of Birmingham) on student and academic exchange programmes. Doctoral students conducted studies

abroad under the Erasmus programme, the Marie Curie Fellowship and through a scholarship from the government of Switzerland provided by the Centre for International Services of the Ministry of Education. Cooperation was also continued with France on double doctoral degrees.

Faculty of Science

The faculty is involved in wide-ranging international cooperation in the form of exchanges, joint research programmes, conferences, internships for young scientists and joint publications. In cooperation with universities abroad, joint doctoral studies programmes and post-doctoral stays for young scholars are made possible. Interest has grown in double doctoral degrees based on bilateral agreements. The faculty invited foreign guest professors to speak under its programme "Innovation Lectures", which began in 2004. In 2006 faculty personnel took part in research projects that were part of foreign programmes, for example the EU Framework Programmes, KONTAKT, CEEPUS, INGO, ERASMUS, LEONARDO DA VINCI, NATO – Science for Peace and others. There is a wealth of informal cooperation as well with more than two hundred foreign institutions and universities, especially in the form of joint publications, teaching cooperation, exchanges and internships, study stays by students and academics and personal contacts.

Faculty of Arts

The importance of international cooperation has kept increasing recently, both in individual and institutional form. The Department of Religious Studies has been involved in a project of the 6th Framework Programme together with 14 research centres from 10 countries. The Department of Pedagogical Studies has contributed to several international projects funded by the European Social Fund from the EU Structural Funds. Their purpose is improvement in the quality of education to ensure the increased success of graduates on the job market. The ECOLAB project aimed at improvement of teaching in economic disciplines and their coordination within different areas in Europe. In addition to the Department of Pedagogical Studies of the Faculty of Arts the project also involved similar university departments from Germany, Lithuania and Turkey. In 2006 the Departments of History and Art History continued their cooperation with long-time partner universities and research institutes, especially those in neighbouring countries (Bratislava, Vienna, Innsbruck, Constance, Leipzig, Marburg, Würzburg, Wrocław, Poznań, Toruń, Krakow) as well as some further afield (Rome, Moscow). Academics of various European universities are involved in individual research projects within the long-term research plan, coming as visiting professors to lecture, especially for doctoral students. Thomas Winkelbauer of Vienna University received an MU honorary doctorate (originally proposed by the Department of History) and Lonny Glaser received the MU Gold Medal for long-term management of the Janineum Foundation active in the area of the organization of international scientific cooperation. Cooperation between the

Department of Slavonic Studies and the Universities of Naples, Poznan and Belgrade continued. The Philosophy Department continued its long-term co-operation with the Sorbonne in Paris, the University of Burgundy and universities in Lyon and Hannover.

Staff of nearly all departments of the Faculty of Arts travel to various countries for conferences and for short and as long-term exchanges as well as to act as visiting lecturers and they publish the results of their research in international journals. Research exchanges take place within the framework of various academic mobility projects including, for example, study visits by the staff of the Department of Film Studies in the USA and members of the Department of Religious Studies in Japan. Large numbers of students, doctoral students and teachers of the faculty have been involved in the SOCRATES and COMENIUS programmes and many make use of regular exchanges with the partner universities.

Faculty of Education

The faculty works with foreign partners in a broad range of disciplines both on the basis of agreements signed between Masaryk University and universities in Poland, Hungary, Austria, Germany and Slovakia, as well as on the basis of bilateral agreements at the faculty level with the University of St. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava, Slovakia, the University of Prešov, and the McLennan Community College at Waco in Texas. In the context of international projects based on informal contacts it also cooperates at the departmental level with universities, research institutes and other organizations in France, Germany, Austria, Great Britain, Sweden, Finland, Spain, Portugal, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Italy, Cuba, Ukraine, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia, Angola and the USA.

In 2006 two research projects submitted by the faculty were accepted by the EU Structural Funds (Teaching Practice in the Environment of Socially Disadvantaged Groups; Creation of a Support Network for Innovative Forms of Lifelong Education of Teachers and Other Education Professionals and their Share through e-Learning in LMS Moodle), and two projects from 2005 continued. The faculty is also involved in the AKTION, CEEPUS, DAAD, Bilateral Scientific-Technical Cooperation (with Poland and Slovakia), Jean Monnet and Leonardo da Vinci programmes, and in projects on Cytoskeleton and Cell Cycle of Yeast and Microtubule Effectors for Development of Cancerostatics in cooperation with the Institute for Molecular Biology in Jena and Hydrophobic Substrate Utilization by the Non-conventional Yeast *Yarrowia lipolytica* and its Potential Applications in cooperation with the Jean-Marc Nicaud INRA Centre de Grignon, France.

In the context of the SOCRATES/COMENIUS programme a new contract was signed for the project EuSTD.web; European Teachers Professional Development for Science Teaching in a Web-based Environment. One project within the SOCRATES/ERASMUS programme was successfully completed and two SOCRATES/GRUNDTVIG projects are continuing.

The faculty has also been involved in the 6th Framework Programme in the form of participation in the Faculty of Science's project EUROLIMPACS (Integrated Project to Evaluate the Impact of Global Change on European Freshwater Ecosystems).

With growing international cooperation, there has been an increase each year in the number of business and study trips abroad by teachers and students. In 2006, 366 persons travelled abroad, on the basis of invitations, for the purpose of attending conferences, in the context of grant projects and as part of international programmes, and to a lesser extent on the basis of partnership agreements, Ministry of Education or AIA quotas and individual contacts. Study trips by doctoral students are also supported within faculty research projects. International students come to the Faculty of Education from Slovakia, Austria as well as other countries such as Belarus, the USA and Saudi Arabia.

Teaching in doctoral degree programmes in foreign languages is gradually being introduced as part of the process of internationalization. The field of Special Pedagogy is accredited in German and English, and that of the Teaching of Fine Arts in German. Several doctoral students are supervised by foreign experts.

Faculty of Economics and Administration

The international activities of the faculty are mainly carried out with other universities. In 2006 the faculty cooperated actively with the University of Economics in Bratislava and Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica, Slovakia; the Economics Academy in Krakow and the Economics Academy in Katowice; and the Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration. The main focus of co-operation is joint research followed by joint publication of findings, and the creation of study materials. Exchanges of teachers, internships and lectures are made possible in the framework of the SOCRATES/ERASMUS programme with universities and other tertiary-level institutions in France (Rennes), Germany (Bochum, Göttingen, Tübingen) and Great Britain (Huddersfield, Plymouth).

Faculty of Informatics

International cooperation in 2006 took place in the form of participation by teachers at international conferences and through cooperation on international grant projects. Through two networks of excellence, NoE DELOS and NoE FIDIS, the Faculty cooperated with dozens of top European university centres; in addition, it implemented a project supported by Germany's Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and a LEONARDO project. The faculty is also a member of the international non-governmental research association ERCIM along with fifteen other leading European institutions. It continued to organize its traditional Informatics Colloquia, which are attended by leading specialists from the Czech Republic and abroad. In 2006 the faculty organized four international conferences. Cooperation on the basis of an agreement on double doctoral degrees was continued with the University of Pisa.



Faculty of Social Studies

The faculty worked with foreign institutions through joint participation by its departments in European Union programmes and joint grant projects. These are primarily projects of the EU Commission and the Jean Monnet programme, LEONARDO and the 5th and 6th Framework Programmes. Exchanges by teachers and students, internships and lectures are arranged on the basis of agreements under the SOCRATES/ERASMUS programme and other agreements. Faculty scholars are members of the editorial boards of a number of international journals, expert commissions and professional associations. They also take part in the organization of international conferences, among them the fifth annual conference on Conflict in Identities, Identities in Conflict and the international conference Parliamentary Elections and Party Landscape in the Visegrád Group Countries, attended by leading experts from Great Britain, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and the host country. Cooperation was established with the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), in the context of which an extensive study was implemented on political parties and party systems in Central and Eastern Europe. The Institute for Comparative Research in Political Science became a member of an international organization focused on European Studies, the University Association for Contemporary European Studies (UACES). The faculty coordinates an international interdisciplinary doctoral school (in the form of academic workshops) in social studies (European Graduate School for Social Studies).

Faculty of Sports Studies

The faculty's international academic and research cooperation is conducted mainly within the framework of bilateral agreements with universities all over Europe. Other cooperation takes place within the framework of the SOCRATES/ERASMUS and CEEPUS programmes, intended to promote the mobility of students and teachers. One of its more interesting activities is the outdoor exchange course that it organizes in cooperation with the Technical University of Munich, attended by students and teachers from both institutions.

Teachers of the faculty also attend the International Seminar on Gymnastics and Dance held by Magdeburg University in the context of further education of teachers.

In 2006 there were visits by a number of foreign scholars who offered lectures in the areas of kinanthropology and the sociology of sports. The Faculty of Sports Studies also organized an annual international academic conference on Sport and Quality of Life, attended by specialists from many European and North African countries.

Institute of Computer Science

The institute's international cooperation consists mainly of participation in European projects and active participation in and the organization of international conferences and summer schools. Participation continued in "networks of excellence" under the 6th Framework Programme: CoreGRID, devoted to the

problems of grids, and DELOS, concerning digital libraries (jointly with the Faculty of Informatics).

Another 6th Framework Programme project under the title HEALTHWARE was devoted to the use of satellite technology in providing medical services. In 2006 the ICS also took part in activities focusing on the use of large optic fibre networks, where it continued (in cooperation with institutes in the USA, especially Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge and StartLight/EVL in Chicago) with further development of a multi-point video conference with very high picture quality and a demonstration of results at the SC06 conference in Tampa.

International Institute of Political Science

In 2006 the institute developed its close partnership with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation. Thanks to this cooperation a series of academic conferences was organized, including symposiums in political science on The Parliamentary Election in 2006 and Czech Politics and Czech-German Relationships in the Enlarged European Union. Together with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, the MU Faculty of Law and the Supreme Administrative Court the IIPS held an international conference on The Role of Supreme Courts in European Constitutional Systems. Cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation also involves support for publication activity; in 2000 the IIPS issued seven titles within the series Studies and Collections.

In cooperation with the Embassy of the United States of America and the Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) and European Democrats in the European Parliament (EPP-ED), it organized an international

Conference on Prospects of Western Civilisation and Five Years of Global Terrorism. The staff of the institute actively participated in several international conferences in the Czech Republic and abroad. Cooperation was successfully developed with the East Central European Centre at Columbia University in New York.

Language Centre

The centre is involved in long-term cooperation with the Language Learning Centre, University of Wales in Aberystwyth, Great Britain. Under the SOCRATES/ERASMUS programme, teachers from the two universities participate in regular exchange lecture stays. The language centres of both universities cooperate in the area of research and development with respect to new teaching methods.

In 2006 the centre followed up on the successful pilot project of the Ministry of Education entitled The Development and Use of Videoconferencing in Teaching English, which was taught in parallel at the two universities and consisted of presentations and discussions on specialized topics between students of the two universities by means of videoconference links. Further cooperation in this area has been developed since 2006 thanks to a two-year project focusing on development of new methodological procedures in the extension of communicative skills (mainly video-conferencing) as part of the LEONARDO DA VINCI programme. This project,

with Masaryk University as principal investigator, involves, in addition to the University of Wales, Jaime I Castelló University (Spain). The functionality of the new methods will be tested not only through teaching at the two universities but also in four small and medium-sized firms in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Italy, who are also involved in the project.

Under the SOCRATES/GRUNDTVIG programme, the Language Centre is cooperating

on a two-year international project entitled "The Preparation of Teachers for Collaborative Teaching in Adult Education", with partners from Denmark, Norway, Spain, Lithuania and Italy. The aim of the project is to provide methodological support for overcoming barriers to the use of information technology for mutual cooperation and communication among nations.

Cooperation with the Czech Academy of Sciences, ministerial research institutes and the non-governmental sector

Research issues dealt with in the course of joint projects between Masaryk University and the Czech Academy of Sciences have become a traditional part of the broad cooperation between the two institutions. The close cooperation of these institutions has benefited greatly from the irreplaceable role of the Academy as part of the doctoral programmes in a number of fields. Practically always, academic research has applicable results. This explains the successful development of the university's cooperation with government ministries and with non-governmental institutions that conduct research or make use of its findings.

Faculty of Law

This year, too, saw the continuation of long-term cooperation with the country's highest courts – the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court and the Supreme Administrative Court – in which a number of teachers also serve as judges, advisers or assistants to the judges. Also important is the cooperation with the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office in Brno, the ministries and other central bodies of government. The faculty helps in dealing with problems relating to legal practice and harmonizing the interpretation of law, mainly through providing expertise, taking part in the drawing up of proposals for generally binding legal measures and in the commentary process, and participating in the process of shaping the body of judicial rulings. Teachers serve on ministerial committees making expert analyses, share in the advisory activities of the Czech government's Human Rights Council and serve the needs of national and international nongovernmental organizations.

Faculty of Medicine

The faculty has long worked closely with the Institute of Biophysics, of the Czech Academy of Science in Brno, in the fields of molecular biology and genetics. Teaching methods and joint research on oncology with the Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute has brought good results for many years. Likewise important is cooperation with the Traumatology Clinic at the Brno Trauma Hospital, a state-run hospital outside the system of university hospitals offering the highest quality of trauma surgery and intensive trauma care. Its spinal unit is one of the country's leaders in this area, also providing rehabilitation treatment for patients with spinal cord injuries.

Faculty of Science

The Faculty of Science's cooperation with the institutes of the Czech Academy of Science and other institutions focuses on joint research projects and is particularly important in such forms as reciprocal representation in the institutions' Scientific Councils, participation as academic reviewers, the editing and publishing of scientific journals and reviews of the findings published there.

Especially intensive is the cooperation with the Czech Academy of Sciences in the area of doctoral degree programmes based on bilateral agreements signed with institutes of the Academy – the Mathematical Institute in Prague, the Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry in Prague, the Astronomical Institute in Ondřejov, the Institute of Geology in Prague, as well as Brno institutes such as the Institute of Biophysics, the Institute of Hydrobiology, the Institute of Parasitology, the Institute of Vertebrate Biology, the Institute of Analytical Chemistry, the Institute of Physics of Materials and the Institute of Scientific Instruments. The faculty works with the Veterinary Research Institute and the Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute. Many of these institutions share accreditation for doctoral programmes with the Faculty of Science.

Faculty of Arts

In 2006 the departments of the Faculty of Arts cooperated very closely with their partner institutes within the Czech Academy of Sciences, working on joint research projects, organizing international conferences and shaping a common plan for doctoral studies. Scholars from the Faculty of Arts serve on the editorial boards of Academy journals, the individual Commissions of the Grant Agency of the Academy of Sciences, etc.

Since 2006 the faculty has contributed to the preparation and activities of the newly conceived boards of the Academy's institutes, which replaced the former scientific boards. These activities are of a long-term and regular character. Particularly close cooperation exists between scholars of the Department of History and historians from the Institutes of History in Prague and Brno as well as from both the Prague and the Brno centre of the Institute for Contemporary History. This is also true of the faculty's archaeologists (with the Institute of Archaeology), psychologists (with the Institute of Psychology), Czech scholars (with the Institute of



the Czech Language) and philosophers (with the Institute of Philosophy and the Masaryk Institute). A number of departments at the faculty have long experience in implementing Academy of Sciences grant projects (standard and junior) and work on newly supported projects has commenced.

Individual departments participate in ministry programmes (the Ministry of Health – psychology; the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs – education; the Ministry of Culture – musicology) and cooperation with the regional governments has become a standard practice. Many academics at the Faculty of Arts have contributed to the activities of scholarly associations that are members of the Council of Research Societies of the Czech Republic. Among these are the Art History Society, the Association of Historians of the Czech Republic and Maticе Moravská. The activities of the latter are particularly closely linked with scholars at the Faculty of Arts.

Faculty of Education

In the area of research and development, the multi-disciplinary Faculty of Education works with a number of institutes under the Czech Academy of Sciences – the Institute of Biology, the Institute of Botany, the Institute of History, the Institute of Archaeology, the Institute of Czech Literature, the Institute of the Czech Language, the Institute of Psychology – as well as with the Academia publishing house. Cooperation is oriented toward both research and teaching.

Other research centres and institutes with which the staff of the faculty have developed formal and informal cooperation include the Silva Tarouca Research Institute for Landscape and Decorative Gardening in Prague, the Transportation Research Centre in Brno, the ETC Consulting Group (Prague), the Institute of the Czech National Corpus at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University in Prague, the National Institute of Professional Education in Prague, the National Institute for Further Education, Centres of Further Education for Teachers in various towns and cities, the Research Institute in Pedagogy in Prague, the Administration of Refugee Facilities of the Czech Ministry of the Interior, the ARS PUBLICA Civic Association, the Czech Office for Surveying, the Czech Union for Nature Conservation, the Helping Hands foundation in Brno, the British Council, AMATE (Association of Teacher Educators) and the Moravian and Silesian Association of Teachers of English, the Association for Support of Talented Youth, the Association of Towns and Villages of the Czech Republic, the Working Group for Brno Names, the Association of Centres of Environmental Education in the Czech Republic – Pavučina, the Czech section of IBBY, the Litera civic association, and so on.

Faculty of Economics and Administration

In 2006 the faculty participated in joint academic research projects with the Moravian Museum and continued its long-term cooperation with research institutes and other institutions of national and local government, especially with the Regional Administration of South Moravia, the

Institute for Regional Development, the Chamber of Commerce in Brno and the South Moravia Regional Development Agency in Brno.

Successful cooperation is ongoing in the area of joint projects with non-governmental, non-profit organizations, particularly through the faculty's Centre for Research on the Non-profit Sector.

Faculty of Informatics

The main form of cooperation between the Faculty of Informatics and institutes of the Czech Academy of Sciences is through joint research projects. Especially significant is the cooperation with the Institute of Biophysics in Brno, the Institute of the Czech Language, the Institute of Computer Science and the Mathematical Institute. Besides working with the Academy of Science, faculty scholars are involved in research projects with the National Security Office, the Faculty Hospital in Brno and CESNET (the Czech NREN operator).

Cooperation with all of the above institutions is reflected in membership in each other's Scientific Boards and doctoral studies boards, contributions as outside reviewers and participation in state examination committees.

Faculty of Social Studies

In research on individual research topics and programmes, faculty scholars work with two institutes of the Academy of Sciences, the Institute of Psychology and the Institute of Sociology. Other research activities are conducted working alongside ministry personnel on applied research, for example through the Czech Research Institute for Labour and Social Affairs. There is also extensive cooperation with research institutes within the framework of joint-grant projects, as well as participation by faculty scholars in the grant projects of those institutions.

The faculty participates in the Modern Society programme of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs and works with agencies of regional and local government, especially the Regional Administration of South Moravia and the city of Brno. Cooperation with non-governmental organizations is focused primarily on issues of social prevention and intervention, minorities, the Roma and environmental issues and protection. Other joint activities include membership in academic bodies, contributions as outside reviewers and participation in the editorial boards of professional journals and the provision of reviews.

A project in the National Programme for Research II entitled "The Protection of Landscape as a Substantial Feature of the Czech Cultural Landscape" was implemented in cooperation with the private company Löw a spol. One of the many non-governmental organizations with which the faculty cooperated in 2006 was the Good Will Committee – the Olga Havlová Foundation, which provided funding for the participation of teachers and students from the faculty in seminars held as part of the Family Assistant project.

Institute of Computer Science

Under the Academy of Sciences programme on "The Information Society", the ICS again in 2006 helped

to implement three research projects in the areas of providing access to digitalized mathematics texts, applications of intelligent systems in the field of oncology and the effective processing of digitalized images for medicine. The oncology project was successfully completed in 2006. The ICS has close long-term cooperation with CESNET (the Czech NREN operator), mainly in the areas of optic networks, virtual environments for cooperation, programmable hardware and telemedicine. It also participates in the development and administration of the Czech academic grid system (MetaCentrum) and in the development of a national research network. In 2006 institute personnel took on two research projects from the CESNET Development Fund. It is cooperating on CESNET's seven-year research project "Optical National Research Network and its New Applications", begun in 2004. There is also continuing long-term collective efforts with the Czech National Library in Prague to develop the infrastructure for the compilation and archivalization of the Czech web. There is extensive cooperation with hospital facilities throughout the Czech Republic in developing the MeDiMed system, a metropolitan archive of digital medical information images.

International Institute of Political Science

The IIPS works with the Jagello 2000 association on research projects dealing with security issues. On the basis of this partnership, the IIPS serves as the technical guarantor of the Czech-language official portal of the NATO Information Centre – www.natoaktual.cz. The project is overseen by the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2006 the IIPS worked on a project of the Ministry of Education and the European Social Fund entitled "Study for Practice", which provided political science students with opportunities to study with experts in public relations, diplomacy and project management and materials. In autumn 2006 the institute commenced a project entitled "EU Kaleidoscope", financed by the same institutions and aimed at raising the qualifications of secondary-school teachers in the field of European integration. Through a grant provided by the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic the

IIPS implemented a project entitled "The Future of Europe from the Viewpoint of Interests of the Czech Republic", focusing on the prospective presidency of the Czech Republic in the EU Council of Ministers, in the context of which two expert workshops were held and a book was published. The Office of the Government of the Czech Republic also funded the "Do Not Be Afraid in/of the EU" project, providing the general public with information about security in the EU.

Centre for Regional Development

The Centre cooperated with the firms GaREP, UAD Studio and the College of Logistics on implementation of the project "The Rural Environment and its Revitalization – specific local resources and possibilities for their use, and specific local problems and possibilities for their resolution (for application in the NUTS 2 Southeast region)". This project, coordinated by MU, was conducted in 2004–2006 under the Ministry for Regional Development's programme Research for Regional Needs.

Language Centre

Since 2004 the centre has had the task of providing courses in the Czech language for refugees seeking asylum organized by the Association of Citizens for Helping Immigrants. Since 2005 it has drawn on these activities by taking part in the projects of the EQUAL initiative.

It works alongside the Consortium of Non-governmental Organizations Working with Refugees in the Czech Republic on a three-year project "Why should they be neglected? – general improvement and utilization of the employment potential of asylum seekers". It has been entrusted with creating materials for teaching Czech to those seeking asylum, and provides consultation services in the area of English teaching.

In the three-year project "Systematic Support for the Employment of Long-term Refugees and Foreigners in the Czech Republic", the centre works with the Association of Citizens for Helping Immigrants and cooperates on the creation of materials for the teaching of Czech and English to refugees.

Evaluation of long-term research plans and research centres

In addition to the many projects funded by the Czech Science Foundation, other grant agencies and ministerial programmes, the team approach to scholarship and research at the university is also evident in the significant results being shown by two new types of academic instruments – long-term research plans and research centres. IN 2006 the faculties of Masaryk University continued running long-term research plans, research centres and basic research centres with 2005 start-up dates and put into operation new research centres and basic research centres (see Table 3). In 2005, the first year of implementation, teams from the long-term research plans and centres of both types achieved significant results, which were presented in dozens of publications and conference presentations.

The specific findings of the long-term research plans were evaluated in 2006 as part of MU's overall internal review process, based on external reviews. The results of all evaluated long-term research plans were assessed very positively by the reviewers.

Faculty of Law

In 2006 the Faculty of Law continued a long-term research plan on "The European Context of the Development of Czech Law after 2004". Research activities of the project team members aimed at implementation of individual tasks within the project planned for the second year of the project and at overall project objective implementation in the second project stage. The results were presented at conferences, seminars and colloquia at home as well



as abroad and in publications. The key outputs are included in the proceedings of a workshop organized as part of the project in September 2006. For the purpose of international presentation of the research project results a special release of the *Journal for Legal Research and Practice* was issued in English.

Faculty of Medicine

Four long-term research plans were carried out by the Faculty of Medicine in 2005, in the areas of "Internal organization and neurobiological mechanisms of functional CNS systems", "Early diagnosis and treatment of cardio-vascular diseases", "The molecular basis of cell and tissue regulation" and "School and health for the 21st century". In cooperation with the Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute oncology issues were dealt with. In the interest of concentrating research capacity, there has been an effort to involve other faculty departments in new long-term research plans that are planned for funding in 2007. With financial support from the National Research Programme, research centres were established to deal with issues in dental medicine, monoclonal gammopathy and multiple myeloma, chemical genetics, traumatic stress, the biotechnology of stem cells and the diagnosis and treatment of gastroesophageal reflux disorder.

Faculty of Science

The faculty in engaged in eight long-term research plans – "The molecular basis of cell and tissue regulation", "Interaction between chemical substances, the environment and biological systems and their consequences on the global, regional and local levels (INCHEMBIOL)", "Physical and chemical properties of advanced materials and structures", "Diversity of biota communities and populations: causal analysis of variability in space and time", "Study and application of plasma-chemical reactions in non-isothermal, low-temperature plasma and its interaction with the surface of solid substances", "Proteins in metabolism and in the interaction of organisms and the environment", "Dynamic geo-visualization in crisis management" and "Mathematical structures and their physical application". These have significantly strengthened the research profile of the faculty.

Important new basic research centres for 2005–2009 are the Eduard Čech Centre for Algebra and Geometry and Ichtyoparasitology – Basic Research Centre.

In 2006 the faculty obtained three new basic research centres for the period 2006–2010: the Jaroslav Hájek Centre for Theoretical and Applied Statistics, Integrated Bio-analytical Technologies for Microanalysis and Diagnostics using LIF and Material Spectrometry and the Bio-molecular Centre. The faculty is also involved in the work of four other research centres.

Other important centres for basic research at the faculty include the National Centre for Biomolecular Research and the Research Centre for Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology.

Faculty of Arts

Two long-term research plans were continued at the Faculty of Arts in 2006. One of them was the Interdisciplinary Centre for Research on Social Structures from Prehistory to the High Middle Ages: Archaeological field research and theory, the use of natural sciences, methodology and informatics, and protection of the cultural heritage. This programme links the fields of archaeology, museum studies and ethnography, and cooperation with the Faculty of Science is being developed. As part of this research plan, 2006 saw the development and implementation of new methods in archaeology as well as field research at the Těšetice-Kyjovice, Pohansko and Břeclav sites and at the castle at Rokštejn u Brtnice. With regard to one of the plan's sub-topics, "Research into prehistoric to medieval populations", a molecular biology laboratory for DNA analysis was created and equipped with instruments. Another sub-topic, "Comparative research into the social structures of extinct and living cultures", was reflected in a number of field research activities focusing mainly on the areas such as the village house, ploughing tools and communications structures. The project also involved the building of conservation laboratories and investigations of historical buildings, with special focus on developing the appropriate methodology. In compliance with the research project schedule eight conferences were organized in 2006 and about the same number of basic publications was issued in this context.

A second research plan is entitled Research Centre for Central European History: Sources, Lands, Culture, encompassing the fields of history, art history, archival disciplines and medieval Latin and Greek. The research is divided into three modules. As part of the first module, the sixth volume of *Codex diplomaticus et epistolaris regni Bohemiae* was prepared for publication and the seventeenth volume of Hus's writings was published. As part of the second module several conferences were held – on Václav II: Court rituals and religious talent; The state, statehood rituals in the age of the Přemyslides: issues and opinions; The nobility, power and representation in the middle ages; Pecunia nervus societatis Moraviae; The Napoleonic wars and historical memory; Civic elites and local self-government 1848–1948; The Moravian Compromise of 1905; The Orthodoxy faith in historical, religious and cultural context; and The secularization of the Czech Lands 1848–1914. Several monographs and collections of essays were prepared for publication. Within the art history module digitalization of the collection of Grimm's plans in the Moravian Gallery in Brno continued and a workshop on work with digitalized sources was organized in cooperation with the Bibliotheca Hertziana in Rome. In the two years since the project began six collections of essays, three monographs and one edition of sources were published, as well as 130 smaller studies. Another nine books are in the press or prepared for publication. Professional conferences featured more than 70 papers by members of the Centre. All sub-projects stress interdisciplinary and international comparisons and nearly all conferences and collections of essays

include international contributions. For example, the conference on the Moravian Compromise was attended by fifteen foreign historians from eight countries in Europe and America.

In 2006 another long-term research plan was prepared and was successful in winning funding. Implementation was scheduled for 1 January 2007. It provides for a Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Ancient Languages and Older Phases of Modern Languages and is headed by doc. PhDr. Dagmar Bartoňková, CSc.

In addition to these long-term research plans, departments of the Faculty of Arts also worked with two research centres outside the university, the Research Centre for Old and Middle Czech (the Department of the Czech Language and the Czech Academy of Sciences) and Research on the Function of Technology in the Creation and Production of the Performing Arts” (with DAMU Prague).

Faculty of Education

On 13 April 2006, in the presence of the Minister of the Environment of the Czech Republic, RNDr. L. Ambrozek, what was then the largest solar power plant in the Czech Republic was formally opened. Situated at the Faculty of Education building at Poříčí 31, the plant has solar panels situated on the roof of the building as well as in a vertical strip of the upper part of its façade and has an output of 40 kWp. The photovoltaic system, based on crystalline silicon, was supplied by the Solartec company, from Rožnov pod Radhoštěm, and partially funded by the State Fund for the Environment. This was the first of a three-stage project that will supply power to all three buildings of the Faculty of Education as well as to the external distribution network. In the summer the solar plant covers nearly all the day-time consumption of electrical power by the faculty (three buildings, about 6,000 students, 200 academic and 100 non-academic employees), especially between noon and 4 pm. This applies to sunny days: on cloudy or rainy days or when the sun is lower in the sky (in winter), output drops to 5–10% of the peak value. In 2006 the solar power plant generated 37.2 MWh of electrical energy, which resulted in overall savings of around 500,000 CZK. At the same time air pollution was reduced by more than 43 tonnes of carbon dioxide.

In 2006, in cooperation with the Brno House of Art, the Gallery of Fine Art Pedagogy was opened as the only specialized gallery for the needs of fine art teaching in the Czech Republic. The programme for the gallery is the work of art students of the Faculty of Education.

In 2006, with the support of the Higher Education Development Fund, the faculty built an ICT laboratory for multimedia presentations of all forms of teaching.

Faculty of Economics and Administration

In 2005 the Faculty of Economics and Administration was awarded funding for a five-year project on a Centre for Research on the Competitiveness of the Czech Economy by the Ministry of Education under its National Research

Programme. In this project, the faculty cooperates with the Centre for Economic Studies in Prague and the National Observatory for Employment and Education in Prague. The research centre project will be completed in 2009. Its task is to analyse the factors and elements of competitiveness of the Czech economy in the context of meeting the targets of the Lisbon Strategy. Special emphasis is placed on examining the specific features of countries undergoing transformation in the process of economic and technological advancement, and on identifying the implications of existing developmental trends for future politico-economic policy. The goal of the project is to create sound analytical materials for decision-making by politico-economic and economic bodies, thus supporting the successful transformation of the Czech Republic toward an information-based economy.

Faculty of Informatics

In 2005 the faculty began implementation of a new long-term research plan on “Highly Parallel and Distributed Computer Systems”; in May 2006 the internal evaluation of the research plan at MU confirmed that it has met with excellent results so far. In addition to its long-term research programmes, the faculty is also co-principal investigator in the 1M Research Centre Institute of Theoretical Informatics as well as in three basic research centres: the Centre for Computer Linguistics, Dynamics and Organization of Chromosomes During the Cell Cycle, Normal and Pathological and, since 2006, the Centre of Computer Graphics. These centres have not been undergone evaluation.

Faculty of Social Studies

The Faculty of Social Studies is currently involved in three long-term research plans covering the fields of political science and European studies, sociology, social policies and social work and psychology.

The long-term research plan on “Political Parties and the Representation of Interests in Contemporary European Democracies” mainly involves evaluation from a comparative European perspective of the role of political parties and other political actors engaged in the process of mediating and of representing interests in a situation of multi-level governance. Articles based on research in the framework of the programme are published in Czech journals (*European Electoral Studies*, *Political Science Journal*, *Central European Political Studies*, *Political Science Revue* and others) as well as international periodicals. The monographs and collections of essays that have been published within the project cover the whole range of issues being studied (*Political Parties of Modern Europe*; *IDEA: Regional Report on Political Parties in Central and Eastern Europe*; *Representation of Minority Interests in the EU*; *Elections to the Chamber of Deputies in 2006*). In 2006 the institute hosted a conference entitled Local Political Pluralism: Brno in the Course of Three Centuries, and an international workshop on Parliamentary Elections and Party Landscape in the Visegrád Group Countries. In 2006 an international platform for reflection of electoral behaviour and electoral system was established



– the electronic periodical *European Electoral Studies* (www.ispo.fss.muni.cz/evs).

The long-term research plan “Reproduction and Integration of Society” focuses on identification of the significant factors and mechanisms of reproduction and integration of society, or social cohesion. Particular attention is devoted to the role of three institutions that are integrating factors in (post)modern society: (1) The family and its reproductive potential – including its potential for social reproduction – and its capacity for internal solidarity; (2) The employment market and its potential as a mechanism for social inclusion and the processes that work in the other direction to increase the risk of marginalization or social exclusion endangering active citizenship; and (3) The public policies of the modern state that are intended to support inclusion mechanisms on the labour market, in the family and in the community and to promote the principles of citizenship. Participating in the research programme are experienced researchers as well as students in the doctoral programmes of sociology, social policy and social work. The project outcomes include several Czech and foreign language monographs and collections of essays covering the issues, a number of chapters in international and Czech scholarly books and collections of essays, articles in journals and papers at international conferences.

In 2006 three conferences were held: Social Exclusion and Social Policy; International Conference on Conflict in Identity, Identities in Conflict; Social Reproduction and Integration: Ideals and Limits.

In 2006, the long-term research plan on “Psychological and Social Characteristics of Children, Youth and the Family: Development of the personality at a time of change in modern society” continued for the second year. Its main focus is on long-term research on children and their families. This is a unique research project, one that is linked to the European project ELSPAC, coordinated by the University of Bristol. In 2006 a survey of 14-year-olds was commenced. Special attention was paid to self-perception and self-evaluation, evaluation of relationships to family and friends, romantic relationships, social and health risks. As part of the research project further research was carried out focused on the period between adolescence and adulthood, psycho-social adaptation and the personality of talented children, families with handicapped children, the behaviour of Czech respondents in the Internet environment (with the option of international comparison). Findings from all projects are regularly published and presented at international conferences and other specialized forums. Individual topics are also dealt with by Master and doctoral students.

Institute of Computer Science

Work continued in 2006 with the Faculty of Informatics on the joint long-term research plan “Highly Parallel and Distributed Computer Systems”. In it, ICS personnel are responsible for research in the area of grid systems and systems for remote cooperation.

Unique units and facilities

One of the goals that the university set out for itself in 2005 and continued to pursue systematically in 2006 was to take thorough advantage of its capacity for research and development. This has led to the formulation of a sophisticated strategy for the development of shared laboratories and the integrated use of specialized technical equipment and other material resources. The university has many unique units and individual facilities. In the field of biomedical research, the integration of specialized laboratories shared by the Faculties of Science and Medicine is taking place, especially at the university campus in Brno-Bohunice. Integrated units at the Faculty of Informatics and the Institute of Computer Science already exist. Another unique specialized facility is the reading room and publishing house for the blind, the responsibility of the Teiresias Support Centre for Students with Special Needs.

Faculty of Medicine

Cooperation of the Faculty of Medicine with the Faculty of Science includes sharing of the facilities at the former's Departments of Pharmacology and Histology, particularly electron cell and tissue microscopy, and spectral analysis of medicines.

Faculty of Science

In view of the experimental nature of the majority of research projects at the Faculty of Science, this faculty has the majority of the university's unique units and facilities. Among the most important laboratories are the following:

- The Laboratory of Molecular Diagnostics of Microorganisms (electrophoretic separation of DNA molecules with high molecular mass; analysis of DNA genomes of microorganisms).
- The Molecular Cytogenesis Laboratory (research and diagnostics of specific chromosomal aberrations).
- The Functional Genomics and Proteomics Laboratory (analysis of biologically important molecules using the methods of functional genomics and proteomics); the equipment at the Biology Section laboratory is used by all of the departments collaborating with the biomedical departments, both within MU and externally.
- The laboratories of the National Centre for Biomolecular Research (NMR spectroscopy, computer chemistry and biology, molecular modelling, biomolecular interaction laboratory, biochemistry, molecular biology, enzyme kinetics, protein engineering) are being used to their capacity. New findings have been made in the three-dimensional structure of important biomolecules, especially

selected proteins, sugars and fragments of nucleic acids. These observations have made it possible to obtain a more detailed understanding of the biological mechanisms of these substances in the context of their biological functions, and of how to influence them.

- A collection of specialized equipment for chemical research (shared by the departments of the Chemistry Section). The laboratory facilities have permitted the synthesis of a great number of new organic and inorganic polycyclides and polyhydric compounds and the description of their chemical, spectroscopic and structural properties, along with the study of their chemical and photo-chemical reactions.
- Electron micro-probe (point chemical analysis of minerals and other materials, chemical dating of monazite); jointly owned with the Geological Service Prague.
- Advanced technical equipment at the Plasma Physics and Plasma Sources Laboratory (diagnostics of plasma charges and specialized types of charges, thin-layer diagnostics).
- Fourier infrared spectrometer and ellipsometer and Ramanov FTIR (spectroscopy of advanced materials and nanostructures), used by faculty units and departments.
- RECETOX – EU Centre of Excellence for Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology – laboratory for minute trace analysis of persistent toxic substances, and laboratory for the study of ecotoxicological effects of these materials on freely-living organisms.

Faculty of Arts

Even though the Faculty of Art does not incorporate unique centres comparable to those at the science-oriented faculties at Masaryk University, some of its departments are highly specialized. This is particularly true of a number of archaeological localities and stations that form part of the Department of Archaeology and Museum Studies. The unique archaeological localities allowing for systematic archaeological research at Těšetice-Kyjovice, Pohansko near Břeclav and Rokštejn Castle are monitored by international researchers in addition to providing for the possibility of linking research and teaching.

Another important unit at the faculty is the Central Library: both the size of its fonds and its structure give it an importance far exceeding the bounds of the faculty. In 2006 the library had more than 740,000 volumes and the number of registered loans approached 180,000. In addition, the structure of the library allows for cooperation of the more generally oriented Central Library with the highly specialized departmental libraries. The library of the Faculty of Arts also contains numerous hard to obtain international, specialized and older publications as well as some rare old printed works.

Faculty of Informatics

The Faculty of Informatics is responsible for the following unique facilities:

- Laboratory of Optical Microscopy (scanning and evaluation of images of tissues, cells, cell nuclei,

chromosomes and genes in order to contribute to an understanding of genetic material organization in human cell nuclei; the instruments developed by the facility in this connection are unique in the global context), employing graduates, doctoral students and Master's students of the Faculties of Informatics, Science and Medicine and also cooperating with other institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad.

- Human Computer Interaction Laboratory (research on human-computer interfaces in the area of immersed and non-immersed virtual reality systems); joint use in cooperation with the Faculty of Science.
- Laboratory of Advanced Networking Technologies (research on and development of advanced network protocols and applications requiring high-speed networks, environments for virtual interaction, distributed and parallel systems and grids); joint facility with the Institute of Computer Science and CESNET; used for international cooperation.
- Laboratory of Natural Language Processing (research on computer linguistics and lexicography, development of instruments for text analysis and processing, in particular work with corpuses); used within Masaryk University as well as by many Czech and foreign institutions.
- Laboratory of Security and Applied Cryptography (systems for analysis of the security of smart cards); used in cooperation with the Brno University of Technology and the Czech National Security Office.
- Laboratory for the Design and Architecture of Digital Systems (the study, development and application of embedded systems designed for unique, single-purpose applications).
- Knowledge and Information Robots Laboratory (basic and applied research, construction and the education of specialists in the field of knowledge and information robots), in cooperation with the Institute of Computer Science, the Institute for Biostatistics and Analyses, the Masaryk Memorial Cancer Institute, the Czech University of Technology in Prague, the Faculty of Electronics and Informatics of the University of Ostrava, and the MU spin off firm AdvaiCT.
- Laboratory for Parallel and Distributed Systems (development of techniques and instruments for automated verification of large parallel systems and research on the theoretical basis of these methods).
- Laboratory of Search and Dialogue (development and teaching of techniques of machine learning, searching for and retrieving information in databases).
- Laboratory of Quantum Information Processing and Cryptography (focusing on information aspects of quantum information processing, with special attention paid to quantum cryptography, information theory, quantum communication and algorithms, and theoretical aspects of classical cryptography, especially in solving problems of security with the help of information theory).



Institute of Computer Science

Specialized departments at this university unit include:

- Supercomputing Centre (part of the national and international distributed computer environment – GRID; solving sophisticated computer-related tasks and the development of GRID middleware), used within Masaryk University and in collaboration with other universities and CESNET.

- MedDiMed Centre (collection, archiving, processing and distribution of medical image information by means of high-performance computer networks), used by a network of Brno and outside-Brno hospital facilities for clinical practice and for the teaching of medicine at Masaryk University.

Targeted research

Through their activities in the fields of scholarship, research and development, the university's departments and other units attract significant financial resources in the form of institutional support for targeted research. In accordance with legal norms, this support serves to finance research activities in which students are involved, thus enhancing the quality of studies in the doctoral and Master's degree programmes.

Faculty of Law

Institutional funds for targeted research were used to finance a number of activities aimed at supporting research activities by students in the Master's degree and doctoral programmes.

Funding went especially to cover personal and studies-related expenses connected with the research activities of students in doctoral degree programmes, the development of their international research contacts and student research competitions. This funding was also used to cover operating costs for access to information and library services, costs related to the organization of scholarly conferences for doctoral students and costs connected with reviewers' reports for doctoral theses and the supervision of Master's theses. Resources also went to cover the costs of membership fees in learned societies aimed at research and development for personnel who teach doctoral students.

Faculty of Medicine

Institutional funds for targeted research were used to support research conducted with the involvement of students during the course of their Bachelor's and Master's studies in the form of seminar and independent work by the students, student research work and theses in non-medical fields. Independent specialized professional work by undergraduate students in General Medicine and Dentistry, which is part of the medical studies curriculum, emphasizes a creative approach by students towards research.

Faculty of Science

Institutional resources for specific research were used in activities directly related to the teaching of students, mainly in Master's and doctoral degree programmes. They partially served to pay salaries of academic personnel, as well as the faculty's operating costs relating to the aforesaid activities.

Faculty of Arts

Resources for targeted research at the Faculty of Arts were distributed in various areas of academic work related to Master's and doctoral studies in the individual disciplines. Funding was provided for joint research by university personnel and students working on research topics forming part of long-term research plans and special doctoral projects. Especially creative in this regard was research work by doctoral students in the areas of history, art history and archaeology, presented at faculty and national conferences for students. As in previous years, institutional resources for specific research were used in accordance with the directives of the Ministry of Education to support the publication of work by students in specialized journals (the relevant series of the journals at the Faculty of Arts became an important platform for publications of works by doctoral students), to equip rooms for doctoral students with new information technology and to purchase the latest scholarly and specialized literature for doctoral studies libraries. Last but not least, these funds helped pay the costs of study stays by doctoral students at partner universities abroad.

Faculty of Education

Funding for specific research was used to help cover the administrative and personal costs of units responsible for the management and organization of research and development (the Centre for Pedagogical Research, the Research and Development Office, those responsible for doctoral study programmes), to provide honoraria for reviewers of student projects and doctoral theses, to support the costs of doctoral student conferences and, in particular, to finance two traditional categories of research projects at the faculty: scholarly activities by Master's degree students and projects carried out by doctoral students. Altogether 63 projects were supported, with overall funding amounting to 1,494,000 CZK; thanks to this support, many students could take an active part in local as well as international conferences and internships, purchase specialized literature not available in the country, carry out research and surveys and publish their work.

Faculty of Economics and Administration

Funding for targeted research was used mainly for implementing research projects in departments with a significant involvement of students in doctoral studies programmes, who also shared in the publication of findings. Some of the financial resources were

used to pay costs associated with the application of new research findings in teaching, which covered a range of areas including the writing of textbooks, instructional presentation and educational software.

Faculty of Informatics

In 2006 resources from institutional support for targeted research were used to cover personnel costs and expenses related to joint research conducted by academic personnel and students, in particular support for joint research teams, for students' international research contacts, and for the application of research and development findings in teaching. The funding was also used for the support of participation by students in student competitions, for the mobility of students in Master's and doctoral degree programmes, and to cover honoraria for reviewers of Master's and doctoral theses.

Faculty of Social Studies

Funding for targeted research was used to cover personnel costs and expenses related to joint research conducted by academic personnel and students, to defray payroll costs for academic personnel who took part in the academic instruction of students in accredited degree programmes, to equip rooms for doctoral students (computers and software), to reward outstanding academic, research and other achievements, and to cover costs associated with scholarly publications and with reviewers' reports of Master's and doctoral theses.

Faculty of Sports Studies

Institutional funds aimed at specific research were used for research by doctoral students in the field of kinanthropology. Projects were carried out that tied into or related to doctoral theses. Part of the funding was used to cover salaries for academic staff supervising dissertations, examining at state doctoral examinations and reviewing dissertations.

Awards for scientists, scholars and students

Honorary Doctorates awarded by Masaryk University in Brno in 2006

Lumír Ondřej Hanuš

Hebrew University, Jerusalem, chemistry

Peter Newmark

University of Surrey, philology

Partick C. Walsh

Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, medicine

Rector's Award for the best students in doctoral programmes

RNDr. Jaroslav Janošek

Faculty of Science

Mgr. Jakub Macek

Faculty of Social Studies

Mgr. Jan Cempírek

Faculty of Science

Gold Medals

Prof. RNDr. Jiří Rosický, DrSc.

Faculty of Natural Sciences, MU

Silver Medals

Dennis Michaelis

McLennan Community College, Texas

Doc. PhDr. Zbyněk Zbyslav Stránský, CSc.

Rector's Award for a major creative accomplishment

Pavel Zezula, (Giuseppe Amato), **Vlastislav Dohnal**,

Michal Batko:

Similar Search – The Metric Space Approach,

Springer, New York 2006

Zdeněk Adam, **Pavel Ševčík**, **Jiří Vorlíček** (Martin

Mistrík):

Bone Tumours, Grada Publishing, Prague 2005

Ondřej Došlý, Pavel Řehák:

Half-Linear Differential Equations,

Elsevier, Amsterdam, 2005

Robert Staffa:

Salvage of Critically Ischemic Limbs – Pedal Bypass

Grafting, Grada Publishing, Prague, 2004

Rudolf Brázdil:

Historical and Contemporary Floods, Masaryk

University, Brno, Czech Hydro-Meteorological

Institute, Prague, 2005

Jarmila Bednaříková:

The Movement of Nations, Vyšehrad, Prague, 2003





Table 1 Development projects in 2006 (in thou. CZK)

	University Development Fund			Transformation and Development Programmes		
	Number	Non-cap.	Cap.	Number	Non-cap.	Cap.
FL	0	0	0	1	1,178	150
FM	11	461	7,818	4	11,278	8,170
FS	33	3,402	3,433	5	2,673	2,000
FA	24	2,340	0	2	2,571	2,600
FE	12	821	1,361	4	6,559	800
FEA	0	0	0	1	4,856	750
FI	5	95	2,587	2	6,220	4,336
FSS	6	419	0	5	9,602	1,585
FSpS	11	1,070	0	1	1,201	150
SCSSN	0	0	0	1	8,120	800
ICS	1	0	1,748	2	19,109	31,540
LC	0	0	0	1	796	0
ISC	0	0	0	1	4,849	0
RMU	1	220	0	10	8,763	7,500
Total	104	8,828	16,947	40	87,775	60,381

Table 2 MU involvement in University Development Fund programmes

Theme	No of accepted projects	Allocated funding in thou. CZK		
		Capital	Non-capital	Total
A	14	16,947	0	16,947
B	2	0	402	402
C	1	0	220	220
E	–	–	–	–
F	60	0	2,373	2,373
G	27	0	5,833	5,833
Total	104	16,947	8,828	25,775

Table 3 Participation of MU in long-term research plans

Title	Funding 2006 (in thou. CZK)
Early diagnosis and treatment of cardiovascular diseases	19,859
Internal organization and neurobiological mechanisms of functional CNS systems	21,676
European context of the development of Czech law after 2004	6,117
Psychological and social characteristics of children, young people and families, development of personalities during an era of change in modern society	10,574
Political parties and representation of interests in contemporary European democracies	6,118
Reproduction and integration of society	10,451
Mathematical structures and their physical application	11,496
Physical and chemical properties of advanced materials and structures	13,140
Study and application of plasma-chemical reaction in non-isothermal, low-temperature plasma, and its interaction with the surface of solid substances	17,337
Interaction between chemical substances, the environment and biological systems and their consequences on the global, regional and local levels (INCHEMBIOL)	41,557
Proteins in metabolism and in the interaction of organisms and the environment	37,245
The molecular basis of cell and tissue regulation	43,819
Diversity of biota communities and populations: causal analysis of variability in space and time	31,123
Dynamic geo-visualization in crisis management	13,555
Highly parallel and distributed computer systems	13,598
School and health for the 21st century	8,741
Research centre for Central European history: sources, countries, culture	11,693
Interdisciplinary centre for research on social structures from prehistory to the high Middle Ages. Archaeological terrain and academic research, use of natural sciences, methodology and informatics, protection of cultural heritage	12,602
Total public funding	330,701

Table 4 Publication activity in research in 2006

Faculty	Monographs		Original work in proceedings		Original work in periodicals		Other original work		Textbooks and study texts	Patents
	CR	abroad	CR	abroad	CR	abroad	CR	abroad		
FL	85	1	144	8	200	2	31	1	48	0
FM	33	1	263	103	425	126	39	19	31	1
FS	32	5	274	292	273	313	22	13	24	0
FA	75	7	287	57	334	29	47	9	58	0
FE	65	5	292	59	159	15	29	8	47	0
FEA	67	1	313	38	135	4	37	1	61	0
FI	16	2	62	81	49	53	1	2	5	0
FSS	26	1	95	30	203	8	78	35	0	0
FSpS	12	0	63	2	24	1	0	1	11	0
Total	411	23	1,793	670	1,802	551	284	89	285	2





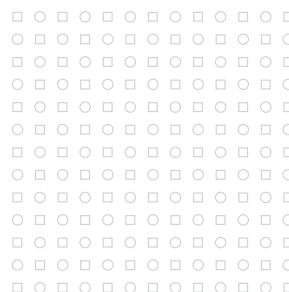
Table 5 Recognition by the academic community in 2006

Faculty	Memberships on boards of grant agencies	International conferences organized	Awards for academic and artistic activities
FL	0	0	0
FM	6	6	8
FS	3	8	0
FA	2	13	10
FE	3	15	0
FEA	0	3	0
FI	1	3	0
FSS	2	8	5
FSpS	0	0	0
Total	17	56	23



EUA Autumn Conference

The conference was attended by nearly 300 representatives of European universities and other higher education institutions. The organization of this event represented a major contribution to the development of MU's international contacts.



The University and Links to the Society

4

Public relations and marketing

Internal communication

The development of the internal culture of an institution is not possible without the creation of space for communication and mutual interactions. For the second year, Masaryk University published the university journal **muni.cz**, which appears every month except for July and August. Designed to appeal to university employees and students as well as the general public, it brings information about the current activities of the university, profiles outstanding university figures and alumni and offers the views and observations of students and academic staff on the life at the university. The journal also provided regular information about research projects, discoveries and inventions and student and sports activities held by the nine faculties. Thanks to the on-line version of the journal all university information is permanently available to a wide community of readers. In 2006 ten issues were published as well as one special issue in English on the occasion of the international conference of the European University Association. The last issue in 2006 included a special supplement devoted to the project for cooperation between Masaryk University and secondary schools.

The university also held several concerts and social gatherings on the occasion of important events at the university, where the academic community had the chance to meet outstanding personalities from political, cultural, public and business circles.

Potential students

Faced with growing competition, every university must work much more systematically to appeal to potential students. For this reason, Masaryk University

developed analytical functions of its information system so as to make basic statistical data about admission procedures and the progress of study available to those in leading positions on all levels of the university management in a user-friendly electronic format.

These data made it possible to evaluate information about the regional distribution of interest in study, the success rate of students from individual secondary schools and the interest of current and former final-year secondary-schools students and to structure data according to the mode and type of study.

On the basis of thorough analysis and statistical findings, a strategy was developed for communicating with potential students: specially designed publicity materials were created for them, with both printed and electronic forms sharing common features. This concept was successfully applied in the context of presentations and promotions of Masaryk University in the course of the year at post-secondary education fairs, at special MU events for applicants for admission, in an electronic newsletter for secondary schools, in printed materials and in other publicity tools.

MU alumni

In 2006 alumni relations developed in accordance with MU's *Strategic Plan*, especially in the form of support for the activities of the Alumni and Friends of MU. This association launched its activities as an independent NGO in January 2006, when it held its first General Meeting and approved its internal regulations. The association has been headed from the very beginning by its Honorary Chairman, the Rector of MU, while the position of Executive Deputy-Chairman is held by a graduate of the uni-

versity's Faculty of Informatics. In the course of the year a logo was designed for the association as well as a website (www.absolventi.muni.cz), where it is possible to register as a member of the association. By the end of 2006 the Alumni and Friends of MU had 1375 members.

In 2006 the first steps were taken towards development of a large database of all MU alumni. The current situation was analysed and the options of technical solution were outlined in relation to the already existing Union of Alumni and Friends of MU.

Media strategy

The media strategy of Masaryk University is based on its own publishing activities as well as on active co-operation with other media. In order to provide the media with regular information about events at the university as well as its scientific and educational activities, MU established a new position, that of Press Officer, in 2006.

News and the most recent developments are communicated to journalists on a regular basis through press releases. Press conferences are held on the occasion of the most important events, among them the opening of the Blue Stage of the construction of the University Campus, the conference of the European University Association and the departure of Czech scientists to the Johann Gregor Mendel Antarctic Station. Through these activities Masaryk University has presented itself to the public as a prestigious research and teaching institution, not only in the regional and national media but also abroad.

Promotion of the university

MU has continued to extend the range and timeliness of its publicity materials. In addition to regular re-editions of information leaflets with basic data on the university and the new campus, a brochure on the university – *Masaryk University – Past, Present, Future* – was published in Czech and in English. This was presented to participants in the international conference of the European University Association. In 2006 the university also published the *NAVIGATOR* – a map of the city of Brno with university buildings marked that contains important contact information on MU, of particular relevance for new students. As part of its efforts to bring an awareness of the results of scientific and scholarly research to the wider public, the university prepared a new publication on the creation of the Johann Gregor Mendel Antarctic Station and the focus of research on James Ross Island. The material was published in English, Spanish and Czech and distributed via the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as by the team of polar investigators as part of the effort to publicize the project in South America.

Web site

In 2006 Masaryk University's official web site, www.muni.cz, was launched with a completely new design, its content expanded and the navigation system reworked. One of the reasons for the change was integration with the unified visual style of the university. The university management hopes that the new visual style will gradually be adopted by the individual faculties and other units at MU.

The web site is divided into six basic categories: information about the history of the university, the present time, research and development, studies, international cooperation and information sources. These categories are accessible from all sub-sites in the upper navigation strip and apply to all faculties and units at MU. In addition, the home page offers pre-selected links for six groups of visitors – applicants for admission, students, the public, the media, employees and alumni – and thus provides quicker access to information designed particularly for these users. Information access is also enhanced considerably through a search engine (for content and persons) in the upper section of all sites.

Both the quality and scope of information to be found on the university web site have also been improved. The web site was expanded with the addition of a number of texts not included in the previous version. Responsibility for updating material in the individual categories was reorganized. The transparency and accessibility of the new presentation has been significantly improved by the new graphic style and intuitive controls.

Publication of results and popularization of science and research

In 2006 Masaryk University paid great attention to activities focusing on publicizing science and research. For the first time, the university served as the organizer of the Brno programme of the "Week of Science and Technology". The principal reason why MU became involved in the event was in order to present and popularize the results of scientific research carried out at the university and to introduce the general public to some of the leading scientists and scholars active at the university. The themes included biotechnology, nanotechnology and the European cultural heritage. The programme included talks aimed at general audiences as well as an Open Day at the university campus at Brno-Bohunice. After the Week of Science and Technology in Brno ended, the university published a documentation DVD with photographs and video recordings of the talks delivered as part of the event. As a result of the great success of the project, and with the assumption that MU would continue to organize it, the university filed an application for registration of the trademark "Science in Brno".

University Press

In 2006 the Masaryk University Press published (including reprints) 357 non-periodical publications, of which 50.14% were textbooks and course readers (179) and 49.86% scholarly publications and journals (178). The annual volume of publications issued by the Masaryk University Press makes it one of the most productive publishing houses in the Czech Republic, both among university presses and the publishing world in general. Detailed information about the published titles is available at www.muni.cz/press. The Masaryk University Press also publishes a printed version of this information every year in the form of a catalogue entitled *List of Non-Periodical Publications*.



Table 1 Number and structure of publications issued 2004–2006

	2004			2005			2006		
	Course readers	Scholarly publications	Total	Course readers	Scholarly publications	Total	Course readers	Scholarly publications	Total
FL	32	13	45	23	13	36	38	13	51
FM	18	10	28	25	12	37	19	15	34
FS	25	14	39	25	14	39	15	12	27
FA	25	47	72	21	44	65	30	45	75
FE	48	17	65	51	26	77	31	21	52
FEA	55	16	71	38	13	51	35	27	62
FI	1	3	4	1	3	4	3	3	6
FSS	–	2	2	–	3	3	4	3	7
FSpS	5	2	7	2	3	5	4	7	11
RMU	9	19	28	7	22	29	–	32	32
Total	218	143	361	193	153	346	179	178	357

Out of the subsidy provided by the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports a sum of 1,000,000 CZK was allocated for university-wide publication activities. This was used to cover the publishing and printing costs of the university periodical *Universitas – revue MU* 1–4/2006, and contributions were also made to help cover the costs of student magazines prepared by student associations active at MU (*Medic on line*, *Halas*, *Octopus* and *Sacra*). The funding was also used for financing the participation of the Masaryk University Press in the 12th International Book Fair “World of the Book” in Prague, where all the Czech university publishers displayed their works together, and in the book fair “World of the Book” in Brno, at which all the Brno university publishers shared a booth where they presented their publications and introduced their latest productions accompanied by discussions with the authors, who also autographed their books. This year, as part of the national exhibition of the Czech Republic, the University Press also participated in the 58th International Book Fair in Frankfurt am Main. Part of the budget also went to cover the cost of publishing data on the press’s production in the bibliographic supplement of *Knížní novinky* (*New Books*), which is required by law. Financing of all these activities was made on the basis of decisions taken by the MU Publications Committee.

Funds from the government subsidy were also used to continue work on the project for a university-wide Internet bookshop, which forms part of the university-wide services portal. This stage focused mainly on the options for interconnecting the E-Shop with the university’s on-line financial system Magion. In the area of the distribution of publications, effective use of the options offered by the E-Shop requires the creation of a university-wide bookshop as the basis for making purchases and presenting the publication activity of Masaryk University.

In addition to its team of text and technical editors, Masaryk University Press also has its own printing centre. This allows for the flexible publication of individual titles, in particular course books in the period before semesters begin or before examination periods as well as collections of articles prior to

conferences and other materials needed for various events. The centre is also used for preparation of occasional publications for MU.

Cultural activities

The university also plays an important cultural role in the city of Brno and the South Moravia Region and, through the academic community, in its relationship to the general public. To fulfil this mission in 2006 the university supported student activities, organized concerts and exhibitions, collected works of art and devoted systematic attention to the esthetic aspects of the designs for its new and refurbished buildings.

Sponsoring

Social events held by the university create the opportunity for members of the academic community and the general public to meet one another. Despite the considerable development resources at its disposal, Masaryk University is bound by relatively strict rules governing its use of public funding. The latter cannot be used by the university to finance events that are not directly related to its core activities but that are important for its further successful development and the strengthening of its position in the increasingly competitive university education “market”. That is why the university must develop its cooperation with an increasingly wide circle of sponsors.

In 2006 MU addressed selected leading companies with an offer of partnership that would allow it to provide financial support for the abovementioned events and a return value to the sponsors. In 2006 the university developed a relatively stable proportion of the individual types of cooperation with major commercial sponsors, mainly from the banking and construction sectors. Its partners in 2006 were OHL ŽS (general partner); KB, Metrostav and Českomoravský Cement (main partners); and Starobrna and Zlatá hvězda (partners).

Institutional partnerships

Secondary schools

In 2006, with support of funding from the Development Projects of the Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Masaryk University created a network of partner secondary schools, signing cooperation agreements with them allowing for targeted work with secondary school students before they decide where they will apply for higher education studies. The network of these schools and its structure reflect MU's strategic interest in attracting the best students from the whole of the Czech Republic. In 2006 this project, entitled "Partnership in Education", involved thirty grammar schools and business academies.

International cooperation

International conference of the European University Association

In past years Masaryk University has contributed greatly to the activities of the European University Association (EUA). As a result of the joint efforts of the major Brno universities, an EUA conference was held in Brno from 19–21 October under the title "European Universities as Catalysts in Promoting Regional Innovation". EUA conferences are usually held twice a year, and the 2006 event was the first of its kind in the Czech Republic. The conference on the contribution of universities to regional development was hosted jointly by the six Brno public and state higher education institutions, the city of Brno and the South Moravia Region, with Masaryk

University responsible for the organizational side of the event.

The conference was attended by nearly 300 representatives of European universities and other higher education institutions. The speakers spoke highly of the organization of the conference in their final speeches, not only with regard to the successful handling of the role of conference organizer but also with regard to the particular examples that were presented of partnerships that had been established between universities and research centres, local authorities and the industrial sector – the basis, for example, of the project for a Central European Institute of Technology, currently under preparation. The organization of this event represented a major contribution to the development of MU's international contacts.

CASPRIO

Masaryk University has been actively involved in activities organized by CASPRIO, an association grouping public relations officers at Czech and Slovak higher education institutions. The professional seminars organized by the association are intended to foster mutual support, the exchange of experience and information in the PR area and the monitoring of new communication trends, in particular in the area of higher education and media and information technologies in the popularization of teaching and research.

Transfer of knowledge and research results

In the course of 2006 the MU Technology Transfer Office consolidated its personnel situation and continued to develop its services. The office is supported by funding from the Operational Programme of the European Structural Funds, and is mainly active in the area of the protection of intellectual property, technology transfer and support for academic commercial activities, including overlaps with teaching and marketing. In the period in question the Technology Transfer Office in cooperation with those who had come up with innovations and the South Moravian Innovation Centre focused mainly on projects in the following research and development areas: plasma physics, the industrial application of enzymes, bio-statistical analyses and other services, research into organic pollutants, exploitation of technologies in the areas of genomics and proteomics and information technologies. In-house staff and external contractors provide support for research centres in the areas of the development and management of contractual relationships, project preparation for the commercial use of intellectual property and other related activities. In the course of 2006 the first spin-off was developed in the area of protein engineering and a university spin-off facility was prepared in the area of information technologies. Further achievements included the creation of the

basic organizational and legal framework for use of intellectual property at MU.

The Technology Transfer Office of MU is a member of the following professional associations: the Association of European Science and Technology Transfer Professionals, ProTon Europe and the Association of University Technology Managers. Cooperation has been established with similar offices at various prestigious research and development centres such as the McGill Office of Technology Transfer, Cambridge Enterprise and Isis Innovation Oxford.

With the help of the Technology Transfer Office research and development activities at Masaryk University were presented at the FINTECH and MSV exhibitions, resulting in ongoing negotiations on several specific transfer projects. The office helped prepare the "Science in Brno" event (in the context of the 2006 national Week of Science and Technology) and "Day of Innovations" (in cooperation with the South Moravian Innovation Centre).





Masaryk University Campus in Brno-Bohunice

“The second part of Programme 233 330 is a project unique among Czech universities: the construction of the new Masaryk University Campus in Brno-Bohunice. With construction of the Bohunice campus, Masaryk University will gain 50,000 m² of new floor space. The projected capacity of the new campus is 5,000 students and 500 academic and administrative personnel.”





Support Processes

5

Infrastructure management

The development of the university's infrastructure was mainly realized through Programme 233 330, approved by Resolution No. 203 of the Government of the Czech Republic (27 February 2002) and amended by government resolution No. 986 of 20 July 2005. The programme is planned to run for the period 2002–2008. In 2006 the programme continued to be successfully implemented.

Renovation and modernization programme

The first part of Programme 233 330, "Development of the Material-Technical Base of Masaryk University", is the renovation and modernization of existing university facilities in the historical centre of Brno. The programme includes the extensive renovation of buildings and infrastructure, the reconstruction of classrooms, laboratories and other areas, and the modernization of laboratory equipment and of information and audio-visual technology.

Masaryk University Campus in Brno-Bohunice

The second part of the programme is a project unique among Czech universities: the construction of the new Masaryk University Campus in Brno-Bohunice. Under this sub-programme, the reconstruction was carried out of existing buildings situated near the Faculty Hospital in Bohunice in the locality of the future campus; these had been acquired by Masaryk University in the late 1990s. Also, construction was begun at the new campus of an extensive complex of buildings slated for the Faculty of Medicine, the Departments of Biology and Chemistry of the Faculty of Science, and the Faculty of Sports Studies.

With construction of the Bohunice campus, Masaryk University will gain 50,000 m² of new floor space: 20,000 m² for classrooms, 17,500 m² for laboratories and research, 5,000 m² of office space for academic personnel, and 2,000 m² for administration. The projected capacity of the new campus is 5,000 students and 500 academic and administrative personnel.

Another roughly 16 hectares of development land adjacent to the new campus will, in 2006–2015, be transformed into what will be virtually an entire new neighbourhood, with the necessary support infrastructure for students (in particular residences and other forms of accommodation, catering facilities, sports areas, commercial and social buildings, facilities for leisure-time activities, and so on) as well as space for business activities, especially of a developmental and innovative character. Among the new buildings in the vicinity will be the new home for the Moravian Archives and site approval have also been issued for the construction of other buildings.

Financing of Programme 233 330

Programme 233 330 was approved with a budget of 6.425 billion CZK; of this, 5.1 billion is for Sub-programme 233 332 for the construction of the university campus at Brno-Bohunice and 1.325 billion CZK for Sub-programme 233 333 for the reconstruction and equipping of MU's historical buildings.

The main source of funding for the Programme is the state budget – 5,318.8 mil. CZK, comprised partly of funding covered by a loan in the amount of 95 mil. EUR made to the Czech Republic by the EUROpean Investment Bank (EIB) on the basis of an agreement signed 27 May 2002 and partly of

funding from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. Some of the funding from the state budget – 1.775 billion CZK – is treated as a loan that Masaryk University will repay from 2009 to 2028. In addition, MU is contributing 809.2 mil. CZK from its own resources, while funding from the City of Brno amounts to 297 mil. CZK.

Including the repayable financial assistance, Masaryk University's share in financing the project comes to 2,584.2 mil. CZK, or 40 % of the overall cost of the programme.

In 2006, 1,155.059 mil. CZK went to cover capital expenditures on Programme 233 330.

Financing from the state budget amounted to 944.223 mil. CZK (5.233 mil. CZK in regular funding and 200.000 mil. CZK in special funding); 55.811 mil. CZK came from Masaryk University's own resources, and from the City of Brno 155.026 mil. CZK, a total of 1,025.430 mil. CZK of capital funding was spent on the implementation of Sub-programme 233 332 – construction of the new campus; of this, 846.049 mil. CZK came from the state budget, 24.355 mil. CZK from Masaryk University's own resources and 155.026 mil. CZK from the City of Brno. For the realization of Sub-programme 233 333 – the renovation and modernization of MU's historical buildings – capital expenditures amounted to 129.629 mil. CZK, of which 98.173 mil. CZK came from the state budget and 31.456 mil. CZK from Masaryk University's own resources.

In addition, Masaryk University generated non-capital funding on its own in the amount of 5.628 mil. CZK for the realization of Programme 233 333 only. To sum up, Masaryk University's own financial input into the programme in 2006 came to 61.439 mil. CZK (capital expenditures 55.811 mil. CZK, non-capital expenditures 5.628 mil. CZK).

As of 31 December 2006, expenditures on the programme totalled 3,056.234 mil. CZK. Of this,

2,362.552 mil. CZK came from the state budget, 527.586 mil. CZK from MU's own funds and 166.096 mil. CZK from the City of Brno. So far, 39 mil. EUR of the EIB loan for implementation of Masaryk University's development programme has been transferred to the state budget of the Czech Republic. The entire amount expended on Sub-programme 233 332 as of 31 December 2006 was 1,960.138 mil. CZK, amounting to about 38 % of its total cost of 5,100.160 mil. CZK. In the case of Sub-programme 233 333, the total expenditures as of 31 December 2006 amounted to 1,096.098 mil. CZK, representing 83 % of the total cost (1,324.873 mil. CZK).

Sub-programme 233 332 – Construction of the MU campus in Brno-Bohunice

The first part of the sub-programme to be realized was the reconstruction of the existing building Morfo III, following reconstruction of Morfo I and II carried out earlier outside the framework of Programme 233 330. Reconstruction of Morfo III was completed in 2004 at a total cost of 170.2 mil. CZK.

Construction of the second part of the Bohunice Campus is being carried out in two stages. In 2004 construction began with the Integrated Laboratories for Biomedical Technologies (ILBIT). This facility was completed and went into operation in September 2005. The total cost of the project was 682,523 mil. CZK, of which 659,111 CZK represented capital investment and 23,412 CZK non-capital investment costs. The remaining part of the costs up to the determined financial limit of the construction of 46.782 mil. CZK will be used, on the basis of approval by the Ministry of Education, for equipment for ILBIT, especially for the purchase of laboratory instruments. Thus the total costs of construction of ILBIT will amount to 729.305 mil. CZK. As of 31 December 2006 the total expenditure amounted to 710.885 mil. CZK, of which 641.666 mil. CZK came from the state budget and 69.219 mil. CZK from MU's own resources.

Construction of the university campus continued successfully in 2006. Two new stages were commenced, including construction of the Academic Teaching and Research Complex (AVVA) – Blue Stage, following on from the completed construction of ILBIT, and the AVVA Red Stage, focusing on infrastructure, financed for the most part from the contribution of the City of Brno. Of the total cost of the Blue Stage, which will amount to 1,531.976 mil. CZK, the amount spent as of 31 December 2006 was 798.427 mil. CZK. Of the total cost of the Red Stage, which will amount to 340.022 mil. CZK, the amount spent as of 31 December 2006 was 199.771 mil. CZK. Completion of the Blue and Red Stages is planned for 2007.

In 2006, design preparation was completed and the building permit received for the last part of the construction of the university campus – the Yellow and Green Stages. Towards the end of 2006 the process began for announcing tenders for these stages. The sub-programme met all its planned targets in 2006.

Table 1 Structure of programme funding (in mil. CZK)

	Renovation 233 333	Bohunice Campus 233 332	Programme 233 330
MU-loan	0	1,775	1,775
MU	430	379	809
Min. Finance – EIB	582	764	1,346
Min. Education	313	1,885	2,198
City of Brno	0	297	297
Total	1,325	5,100	6,425

Table 2 Schedule of programme funding (in mil. CZK)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Total
Renovation 233 333	113	250	259	339	135	109	120	1,325
Bohunice Campus 233 332	15	173	130	616	1,026	2,063	1,077	5,100
Programme 233 330	128	423	389	955	1,161	2,172	1,197	6,425



Sub-programme 233 333 – Renovation and modernization of MU's historical buildings

In 2006, reconstruction continued on the Faculty of Science's Kotlářská site (begun in October 2004).

Of the total cost of reconstruction of the Kotlářská site, which amount to 607.177 mil. CZK, the amount spent as of 31 December 2006 was 424.587 mil. CZK. In addition, 2006 saw the start of a loft conversion project at the Faculty of Law and a further stage in the supplying of Masaryk University with various facilities and equipment (especially scientific instruments), a project that was begun in 2002. All planned targets of the sub-programme were met in 2006.

In 2006 preparation was completed of the system for the integrated administration of the new university campus in Brno-Bohunice and the Administrative Office of the Bohunice University Campus began its activity as a separate part of MU. Another significant step related to this was the creation of regulations defining the shared responsibilities of the faculties that will use the campus (Medicine, Science and Sports Studies) in the areas of finance and administration. Finally, in 2006 suitable technologies were selected and implementation of an intelligent building system for the university campus at Bohunice was begun.

Administration management and organization

The organization of Masaryk University is derived from the MU Statutes and detailed in its Organization Regulations.

In 2006 two independent financial units were established at MU. One was the Institute of Biostatistics and Analyses (IBA), an inter-faculty unit linking the Faculties of Medicine and Science, established in accordance with Rector's Directive No. 19/2005 (Organization Rules for the Establishment of Inter-faculty Units). At the same time the Administrative Office of the Bohunice University Campus also began its activity as an independent financial unit, taking over administration of the new campus.

In connection with the growing importance of project management, the individual constituent parts of MU are consolidating their organizational structures, including the appointment of project economists. Implementation of a system of financial control in the context of the Public Administration Financial Control Act No 320/2001 and its executive decree no. 416/2004 resulted in the transformation of the organization of the circulation of accounting documents to respect the functional roles of the financial control system: the individual initiating the operation, the budget administrator and the head accountant. It must be said that this system, which the Act requires, when applied at public universities, and especially in project management, necessitates increased numbers of administrative staff to oversee the circulation of accounting documents, especially since it is not possible to combine some of the above roles in one person. In addition, the diversity of the individual parts of the university, especially as concerns the volume and variability of project types, does not allow for simple standardization of document circulation, thus leading to increased bureaucratization of administrative activities and decision-making procedures.

MU administration is determined by several fundamental facts:

- The relatively progressive growth of university revenues in the recent years, especially as a consequence of the significant increase in the number of students
- A marked increase in the share of targeted financing allocated in the form of project financing at the expense of normative financing
- The development of external legislation, especially in the form of new or amended acts and other legal norms that bring about changes affecting administrative mechanisms. Good examples of legal documents that have had a significant affect on administration are the above-mentioned Public Administration Financial Control Act and its executive decree, the Value Added Tax Act No. 235/2004, the Public Tenders Act No. 137/2006, and others. Administrative work is involved not only in the course of applying these acts but also in trying to interpret the uncertainty surrounding their application to public higher education institutions.
- The objective increase in the number of external controls to which MU is subject.

These facts place very heavy demands on the administrative harmonization of the related processes and create a need for increased professionalization of administrative staff and greater sophistication of the systems of internal control and financial control. In order to meet these needs, the MU Rector's Office was reorganized (2003–2004) with the aim of increasing the professional qualifications of staff and adapting the coordination, methodological, analytical and control roles within the central management of the university.

The focus of the administrative processes is chiefly represented by the system of project administration and management and therefore in the administration of targeted funding. In 2006 this took the form of 469 project sub-accounts within a framework of 24 different programmes with different accounting rules; in all they amounted to 615.536 mil. CZK.

All this creates a need to adapt administrative activities, increase professional standards of management and emphasize control management activity within the internal control system.

It was in view of this that the relevant control mechanisms were developed at Masaryk University in 2006. In future it will be necessary to develop and introduce much more intense and flexible models for internal methodological activities at the central management level in necessary close cooperation with the state authorities, in particular the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Finance.

The most important tasks related to the development of administration in the following period will be:

- the implementation of organizational changes in setting up management and control mechanisms on all management levels including the development of a compatible structure for management of administrative processes on all management levels
- an increase in the professional competences of administrative staff, with special emphasis on quality and flexibility in providing methodological support for activities linked with handling allocated finan-

cial resources and the application of new legislative changes, especially on the central management level

- the development of control functions on all management levels with methodological responsibility on the central management level, the aim being to increase the effectiveness of the internal control system
- the determination of the optimal degree of centralization and decentralization of responsibilities with maximum application of the principle of subsidiarity
- development of a system for providing methodological advice, especially in the form of internal education for the purpose of increased awareness and professional level of administrative staff
- the consolidation of the internal system for creating norms with an emphasis on instructions for interpreting and applying external legislative norms and the rules affecting funding
- the optimization of the system for the circulation of accounting documents at MU and its elaboration in the individual constituent parts of MU
- the complex development and introduction of the document service implemented at three MU faculties as part of a development project in 2006

The key trend in future managerial measures in the area of organization and administration management will certainly include the elimination of examples of excessive bureaucracy caused by uncertainty in the rules for applying external legislation but also, in many cases, by formalism, the tendency to pass on responsibility and lack of competence. This is the aim of the system of internal education and training at

MU that has been carried out with great success since it was introduced at MU in 2004.

Operation and maintenance management

In 2006, in harmony with MU's *Strategic Plan*, the optimization of the management of university's resources and infrastructure continued. The principal activities in 2006 included:

- implementation of the proposal for the technical solution and concept of a building management system, especially in relation to the integrated management of the new University Campus in Brno-Bohunice
- the complex introduction of bar codes (with the exception of the Faculty of Science) in property stocktaking
- the completion of the digitalization and continuous updating of building specifications (based on the application of GIS)
- the analysis and fine-tuning of the system for monitoring operating expenses with the aim of commencing monitoring on 1 January 2007
- the fine-tuning of the system of integrated administration of the newly constructed University Campus in Brno-Bohunice and development of a model for the system under preparation for the complex administration of MU buildings and equipment
- continuing central coordination of energy management, indicating a significant shift in optimization of energy (electricity, gas, steam) and media (water, steam) costs, energy audits and the optimization of energy consumption; the preparation of the MU Energy Concept until 2010

Investment in human resources and employee support

Within the framework of the university's human resources development policy, the following activities were implemented in 2006:

- Continuation of the five-year project for the development of language competencies in the context of the university's internationalization programme, with the aim of increasing the English language skills of MU administrative staff. The project promotes the acquisition of the level of language competence required for individual positions in compliance with the job descriptions in the Catalogue of MU Positions.
- Development of the system of internal education of employees (especially as part of methodological and advisory activities) for the development of competencies in selected categories of university employees, especially in the form updates on legislation and the transference of this knowledge to the creation of internal regulations. Another area was the continuing training of managers in managerial and communication skills and the development of professional skills of selected groups of employees

- In the context of the motivation system, and in relation to the introduction of a Social Fund, whose creation was enabled by amendments to the Higher Education Act, a system enabling the provision of a contribution by the employer to the pension insurance was deployed across the university as a special employee benefit. About 2,400 employees enrolled in the programme.
- In 2006, in harmony with Masaryk University's *Strategic Plan* and its update for 2006, the first stage of a motivation audit was begun. The audit was carried out by an external consultant, the aim being to map the views and expectations of administrative staff and to identify the key motivation factors leading to positive stimulation of their performance at work. The motivation audit was implemented in the form of an anonymous questionnaire returned by more than 50% of those invited to respond. On the basis of an evaluation of the questionnaire the MU motivation system will continue to be developed.



An important activity in the human resources area included implementation of a new HR information system integrated into MU's Management and Information System with the aim of achieving a qualitatively higher level of information support in

the area of human resource management while at the same time respecting the specific features of the academic environment and the complex nature of the labour law relationships at the university.

Table 3 Age structure of MU academic staff

Age	Academic staff										Research	
	Professors		Assoc. Prof.		Assis. Prof.		Instructors		Lecturers			
	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women	Total	Women
Under 29					46	9	169	69	28	7	9	1
30 – 39	1		36	5	348	127	132	93	40	14	21	11
40 – 49	23	2	89	18	199	98	51	40	41	20	8	1
50 – 59	88	11	138	31	139	69	48	31	42	23	1	1
60 – 69	80	18	85	30	31	21	15	7	6	3	4	
Over 70	41	4	14	3	2		2		1		4	
Total	233	35	362	87	765	324	417	240	158	67	47	14

Table 4 Academic staff at MU as of 31 December 2006

	Total	Prof.	Assoc. Prof.	Other	DrSc.	CSc.	Dr., Ph.D., Th.D.
Full/part-time employment	1,982	233	366	1,383	63	542	657
Up to 30 %	444	30	34	380	12	76	76
Up to 50 %	176	22	31	123	12	47	38
Up to 70 %	73	11	15	47	5	21	17
Up to 100 %	1,289	170	286	833	34	398	526

Note: In the case of, for example, Prof. xxx, CSc. data are included both in the Prof. and in the CSc. columns

Accounting and financial management

The main attributes of accounting and financial management at MU in 2006 are represented by the following activities:

- Updating and adjusting of rules for managing financial resources in line with amendments to the Higher Education Act No. 111/1998 (552/2005), the Public Tenders Act No. 137/2006 and acts, especially tax legislation (amendments to the Value Added Tax Act No. 235/2004); a significant effort was also represented by preparation for the implementation of the amendment to the Labour Code No. 262/2006, passed at the end of 2006 with effect as of 1 January 2007.
- Continued optimization of the rules and system of financial control within MU pursuant to the Public Administration Financial Control Act No 320/2001 and its executive decree no. 416/2004
- Continued implementation of the system of MU project administration and management, especially through introduction of complex responsibility of the project manager in connection with the principles of financial control and with regard to project management risk control. The system also included the systemization of management control and the evaluation of outcomes of projects implemented at MU within the frameworks of various programme.
- Preparation of MU for drawing funding through projects financed from the European Structural Funds; in addition to various independent projects of the individual MU faculties the preparation of a joint project for a *Central European Institute of Technology (CEITEC)*, in cooperation with the Academy of Science of the Czech Republic and other Brno universities (Brno University of Technology, Mendel University of Agriculture and Forestry in Brno and the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Brno) and with the support of the South Moravia Region.
- Continued activities to raise the standards of system integration, especially in relation to the accounting information system, including in particular:
 - deployment of a new HR system
 - completion of the development and the implementation of the basic part of a system for support of bank transfers and cash payments for MU receivables relating to services provided to students and employees as well as other individuals entered in the IS MU
 - completion of the development of an executive information system data base
 - the selection and pilot deployment of a document service system

- Regular verifications and controls for the purpose of minimizing risks related to the findings of external control authorities in close cooperation with an external auditor, as well as fine-tuning of the system; in 2006 the external auditor of MU was also changed, and is now BDO Prima CA, s.r.o. Brno, selected on the basis of a public tender

Non-capital budget

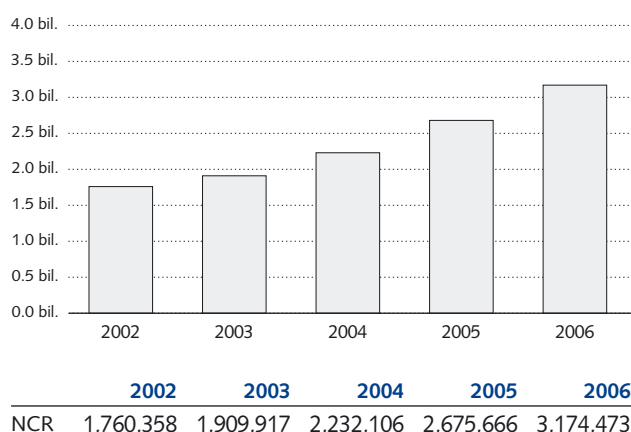
Total non-capital revenues of Masaryk University in 2006 amounted to 3,174 mil. CZK, representing an increase of 19% in comparison with 2005. Costs in 2006 amounted to 3,114 mil. CZK.

The university's after-tax income in 2006 amounted to 60.016 mil. CZK, representing 1.89% of the university's total revenues. All faculties and university units reported a positive balance.

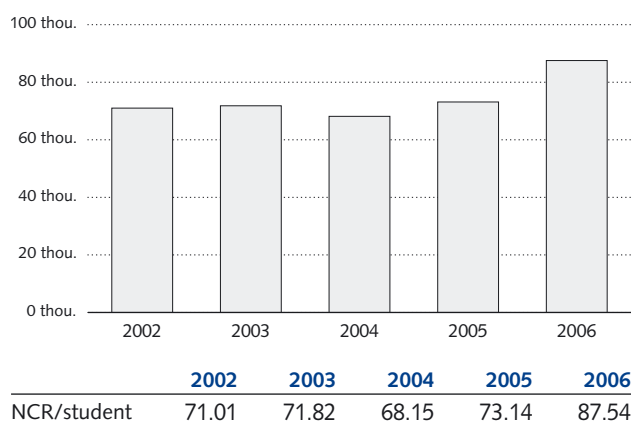
The increase in the number of students, which grew from 32,718 (2005) to 35,721 (2006) – a rise of 9% – resulted in a boost in non-capital revenues. This was reflected in particular in the funding for teaching activities (category A), which rose by 13% in comparison with 2005.

In 2005 the non-capital funding from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports amounted to 2,298 mil. CZK (an increase of 15% over 2005).

Graph 1 Total non-capital revenue of MU (in thou. CZK)



Graph 2 Total non-capital revenue of MU per student (in thou. CZK)



• Bc., Mgr., Ph.D., lifelong learning in accredited programmes

Another 137 mil. CZK came from elsewhere in the state budget and from the budgets of local and regional government bodies (an increase of 10% compared with 2005), 43 mil. CZK from abroad (down 23%) and 34 mil. CZK from other public sources (an 85% increase). The total contribution

of public resources from the Czech Republic and from abroad amounted to 2,512 mil. CZK (up by 15% over 2005). Only 2.034 mil. CZK of unspent non-capital funding was returned to source, i.e. 0.08% of the overall total.

In accordance with the provisions of an amendment to the Higher Education Act, the Targeted Funding Fund received targeted funding in the amount of 54.761 mil. CZK, which comprised 7.128 mil. CZK of Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports funding, 347,000 CZK from the other parts of the state budget, and 18.72 mil. CZK from targeted funding from abroad. These sums must be used later for the original purpose for which they were granted.

The non-capital investment funding provided by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in 2006 for teaching activities and specific research amounted to 1,600 mil. CZK, representing 50.4% of the university's total revenues.

This comprised 1,487 mil. CZK for teaching activities (indicator A, an increase of 13%) and 113 mil. CZK for specific research (up 14%).

Non-capital funding for research and development (normative and targeted) amounted to 632.483 mil. CZK (an increase of 13% over 2005), made up of 473.659 mil. CZK from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (up 14%), 130.979 mil. CZK from other parts of the state budget and from the budgets of local and regional government bodies (an increase of 8%) and 27.845 mil. CZK of research funding from abroad (up 8%). The share of non-capital funding for research and development in the total revenues of the university in 2006 amounted to 20%. Non-capital funding for teaching activities and operations (regular and special) were provided in the amount of 1,879.881 mil. CZK (an increase of 15% over 2005), comprising 1,824 mil. CZK from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (up 16%), 6.2 mil. CZK from other parts of the state budget and from the budgets of local and regional government bodies (60% more in comparison with 2005), 14.8 mil. CZK from abroad and 34.4 mil. CZK in EU co-financing for projects.

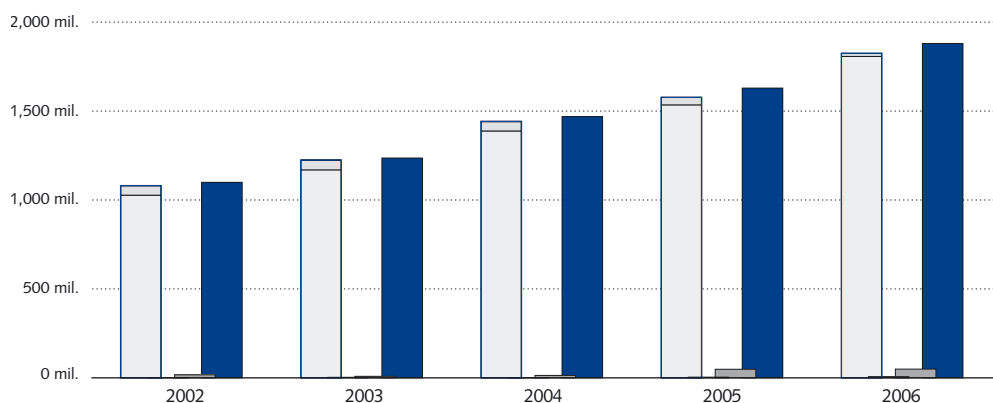
Non-capital funding for student accommodation and catering in 2006 amounted to 16,674 mil. CZK (a decrease of 60% in comparison with 2005); this represented 10.7% of the total revenues of the Accommodation and Catering Services. The state funding for student accommodation and catering was lower than in 2005 as a result of a change in the method of financing student accommodation in the residences. In previous years universities had been granted funding to finance their residences and catering facilities, but October 2005 marked a change in the provision of accommodation grants, which since then have been paid directly to the students themselves.



Revenues of Masaryk University from non-public sources amounted to 668.831 mil. CZK (21 % of the revenues, representing an increase over 2005 of 35 %), 573.895 mil. CZK of this being represented by revenues from the university's principal activity (an increase of 40 % over the previous year) and 94.936 mil. CZK from supplementary income-generating activities (12 % up on 2005).

The share of funding from abroad, 42.8 mil. CZK (a drop of 23 % over 2005), amounted to 1.3 % of total revenues and was made up of 14.783 CZK mil. for teaching activities (down 50 %) and 27.875 mil. CZK for research and development (up 8 %).

Graph 3 Non-capital funding for teaching activities (in thou. CZK)



	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	1,099,258	1,235,860	1,468,685	1,629,259	1,879,881
Min. Education	1,080,840	1,224,201	1,442,017	1,577,118	1,824,463
teaching activities	1,027,120	1,169,432	1,388,100	1,534,797	1,807,320
accommodation and catering	53,297	54,129	52,352	41,768	16,674
other	423	640	1,565	553	469
other state budget sources, local and regional governments	1,530	3,062	1,245	3,910	6,246
International and other ¹	16,888	8,597	13,676	48,231	49,172

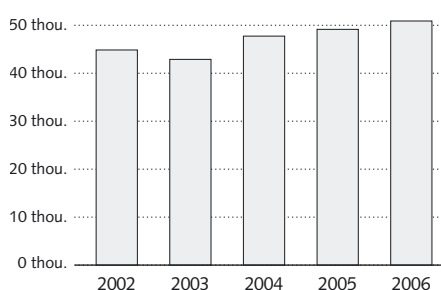
Note: ¹ International and other: international + EU co-financing, HRD OP (CR), EQUAL (estimate), Ministry of Industry and Trade – TTO

Graph 4 Non-capital funding for teaching activities per employee (in thou. CZK)



2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
441.80	467.44	547.08	555.74	590.21

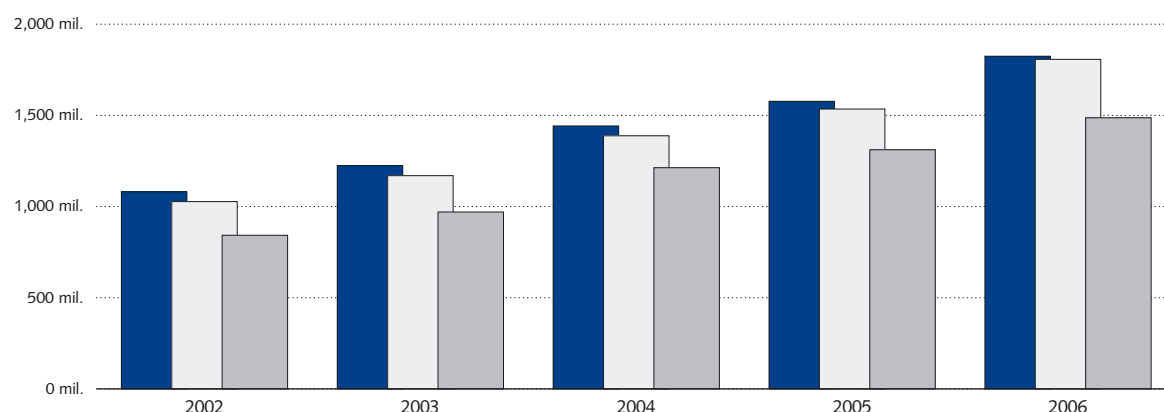
Graph 5 Non-capital funding for teaching activities per student (in thou. CZK)



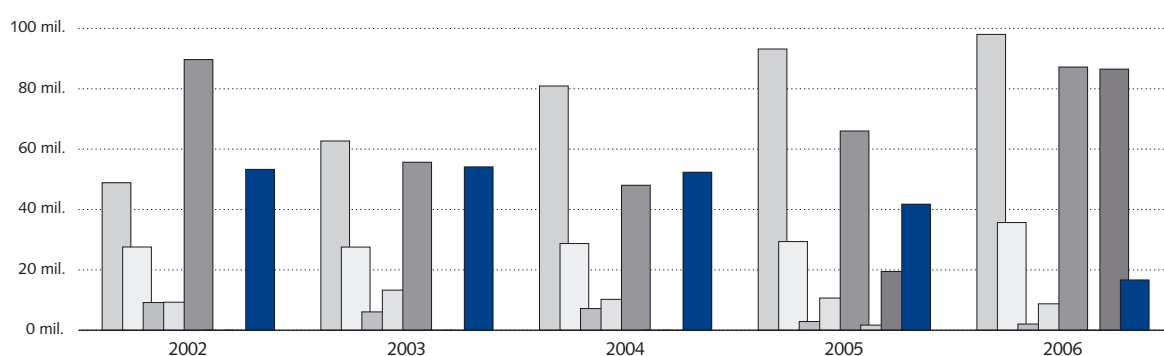
2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
44.80	42.85	47.72	49.16	50.89

* Bc., Mgr., Ph.D., lifelong learning in accredited programmes

Graph 6a Non-capital funding for teaching activities from the Ministry of Education (in thou. CZK)



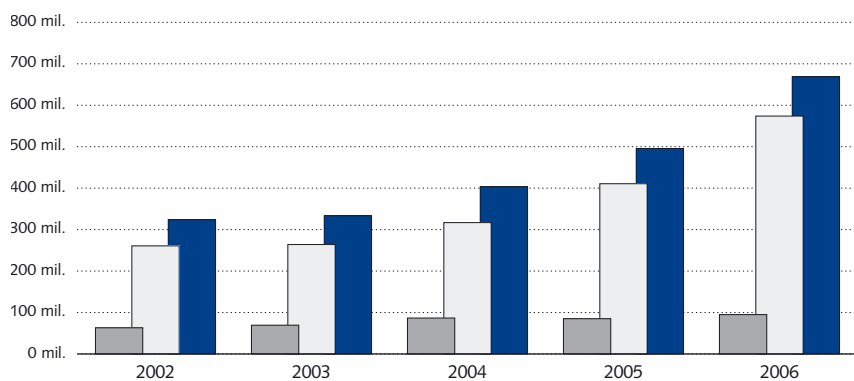
Graph 6b Non-capital funding for teaching activities from the Ministry of Education by category (in thou. CZK)



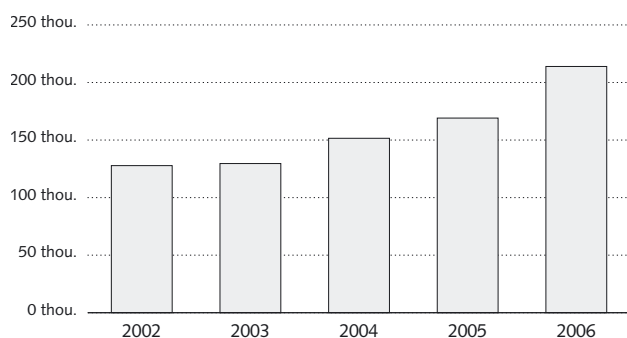
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
6a Total Min. Education	1,080,840	1,224,201	1,442,017	1,577,118	1,824,463
6a Min. Education – teaching activities	1,027,120	1,169,432	1,388,100	1,534,797	1,807,320
6a Category A	842,523	970,132	1,212,995	1,311,490	1,486,865
6b Category C – doctoral scholarships	48,870	62,700	80,920	93,173	98,020
6b Category D – international studies, SOCRATES, etc	27,582	27,557	28,729	29,375	35,683
6b Category F – Educational Policy Fund ¹	9,183	6,086	7,185	2,894	2,054
6b Category G – Higher Education Development Fund	9,291	13,293	10,238	10,672	8,764
6b Category I – Transformation and Development Programmes ¹	89,671	55,661	48,033	66,016	87,205
6b Categories M, E, H	–	34,003	–	1,707	0
Social bursaries					2,216
6b Accommodation grants	–	–	–	19,470	86,513
6b Min. Education – residences and catering	53,297	54,129	52,352	41,768	16,674
Min. Education – other	423	640	1,565	553	469

Note: ¹ Including non-capital funding via programme financing

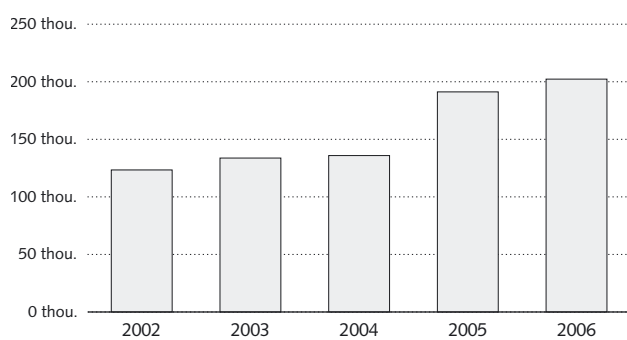


Graph 7a MU supplementary and self-generated income (in thou. CZK)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Supplementary income	63,120	69,460	86,713	85,040	94,936
Self-generated income	260,735	263,976	316,865	410,686	573,895
Total	323,855	333,436	403,578	495,726	668,831

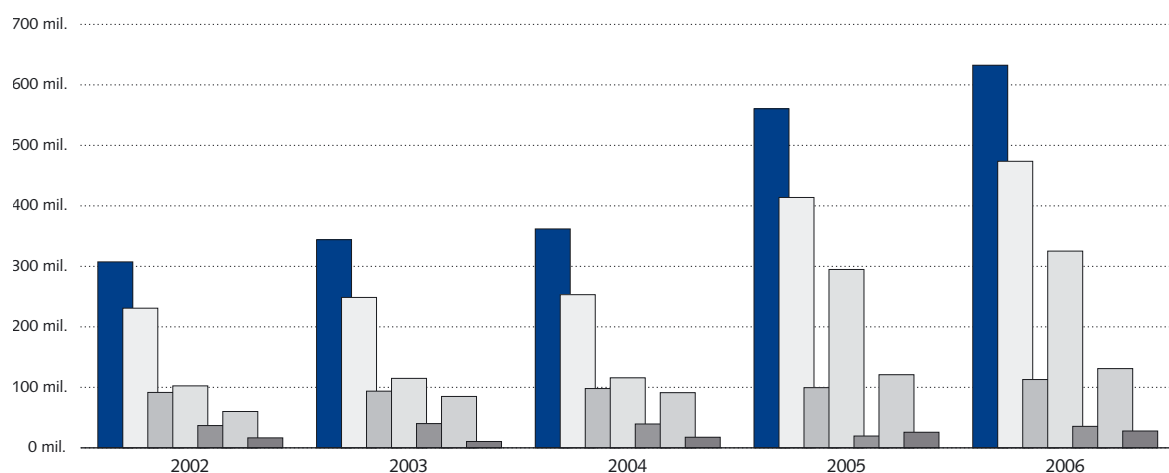
Graph 7b MU supplementary and self-generated income per full-time equivalent employee (in thou. CZK)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Income per employee	127.79	129.59	151.53	169.09	213.92

Graph 8 Non-capital funding for research per full-time equivalent employee (in thou. CZK)

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
NCF/employee	123.38	133.72	135.88	191.19	202.29

Graph 9 Non-capital funding for research (in thou. CZK)



	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	307,422	344,053	361,898	560,513	632,483
Min. Education	230,850	248,614	253,183	413,861	473,659
Targeted research ¹	91,588	93,700	98,014	99,469	112,915
Long-term research plans and research centres ²	102,440	114,830	115,733	294,858	325,221
Other special funding	36,822	40,084	39,436	19,534	35,523
Other state budget sources, local and regional governments ³	60,071	84,951	91,192	120,869	130,979
Funding from abroad	16,501	10,488	17,523	25,783	27,845

Note: ¹ In 2000 creative activities, in 2001–2002 non-targeted research including funding for CESNET

² LC, 1M

³ Including Association of Innovative Entrepreneurship for Kontakt

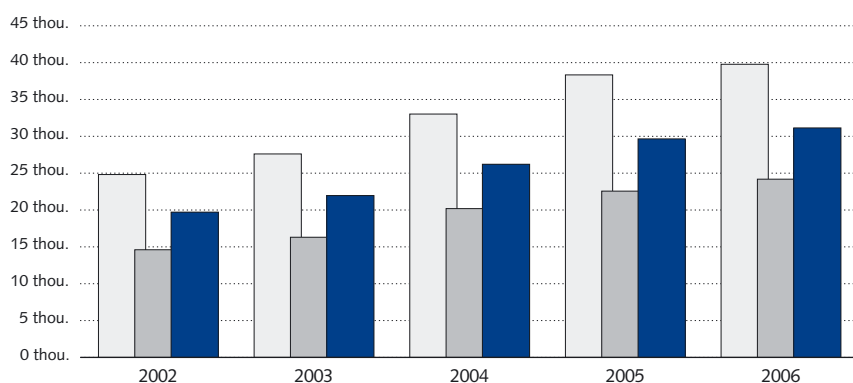
Employees and salaries

The most significant indicator is the total amount spent on salaries and wages from all sources as a share of total expenditures, excluding social security and health insurance contributions. In 2006 this amounted to 1,237 mil. CZK, i.e. 39% of the total non-capital expenditures; when social security and

health insurance contributions are included, the total is 1,655 mil. CZK, i.e. 52% of the total non-capital expenditures.

Of the total number of 3,126.57 full-time equivalent employees of MU (up 6.6% over 2005) there were 1,395.04 academic staff (up 6%), and 1,731.53 non-academic staff (up 7%).

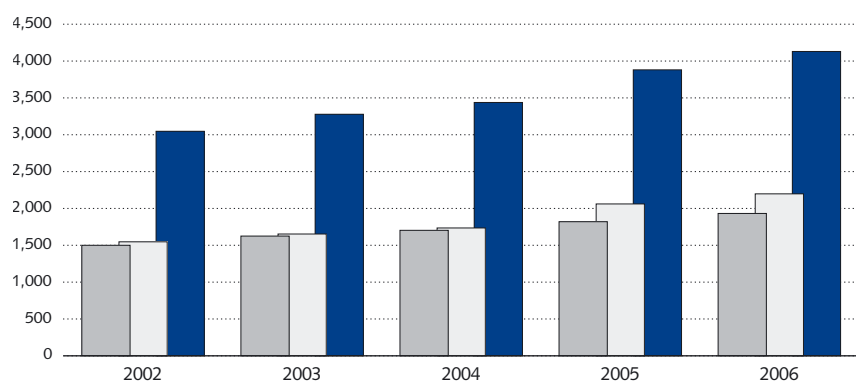
Graph 10 Mean salaries (excluding social security and health insurance) of MU academic and non-academic staff 2001–2006 (in CZK)



	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Academic	24,815	27,609	33,023	38,336	39,777
Non-academic	14,609	16,305	20,192	22,563	24,185
Total	19,712	21,957	26,209	29,653	31,142

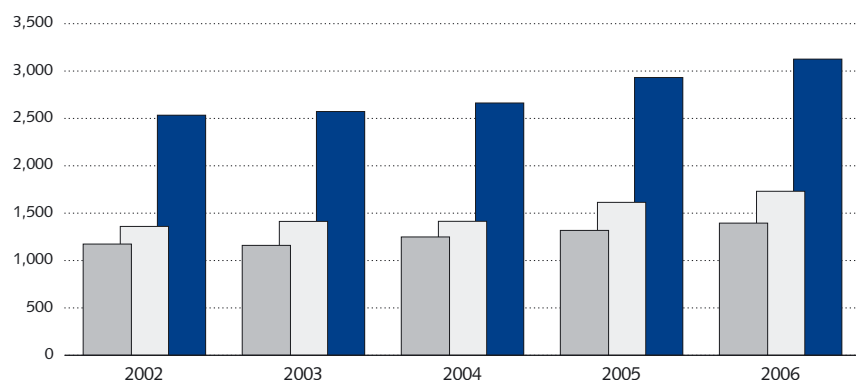


Graph 11a Number of MU employees 2002–2006



	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Academic	1,500	1,625	1,703	1,820	1,932
Non-academic	1,547	1,653	1,735	2,061	2,198
Total	3,047	3,278	3,438	3,881	4,130

Graph 11b Mean full-time equivalent employees of MU 2002–2006



	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Academic	1,173,95	1,159,53	1,248,97	1,318,12	1,395,04
Non-academic	1,360,29	1,413,40	1,414,37	1,613,55	1,731,53
Total	2,534,24	2,572,93	2,663,35	2,931,67	3,126,57

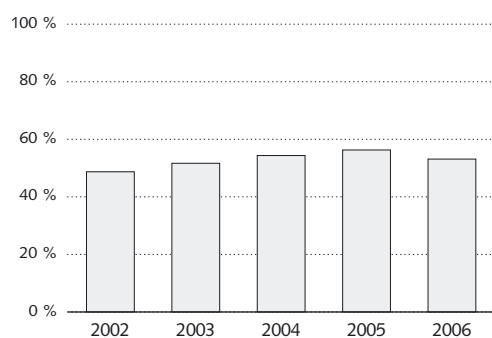
Graph 12a Salaries (including other forms of income) and social and health insurance* (in thou. CZK)



2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
719,575	959,322	1,182,058	1,472,747	1,654,835

* Including royalties (until 2003)

Graph 12b Share of salaries in MU non-capital expenditures (in %)



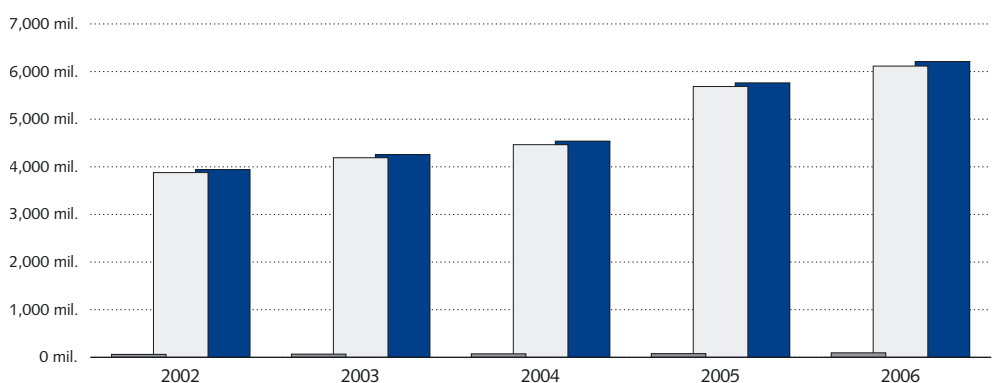
2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
48.71	51.67	54.36	56.29	53.13

Asset management

The inventory taken by MU in 2006 shows total assets with a purchase value of 6,210,994 thousand CZK (up 8% over 2005), of which 6,115,793 thousand CZK represented by long-term tangible assets (up 8%) and long-term intangible assets 95,201 thousand CZK (up 24%).

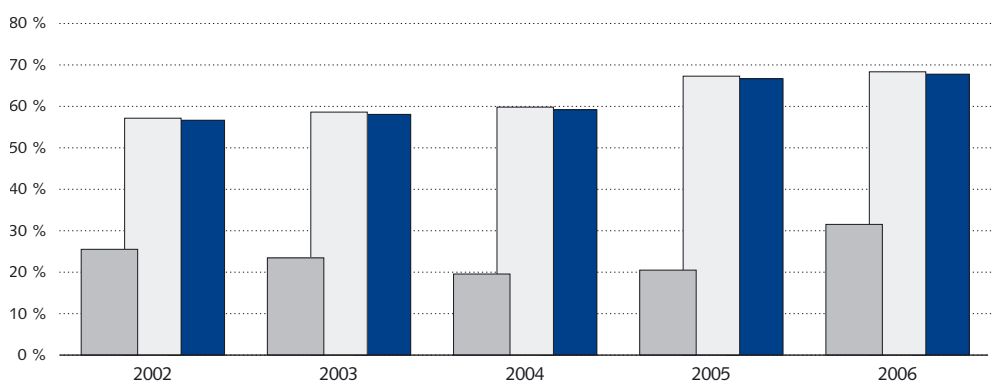
Total depreciation amounted to 2,001,579 thousand CZK. Total write off, i.e. the ratio of total depreciation to the total value of assets, amounted to 32%.

Graph 13 Intangible and tangible assets: purchase value (in thou. CZK)



	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Intangible	61,716	66,686	73,951	76,993	95,202
Tangible	3,878,856	4,191,243	4,465,170	5,686,207	6,115,848
Total	3,940,572	4,257,929	4,539,122	5,763,200	6,211,050

Graph 14 Intangible and tangible assets: depreciation*



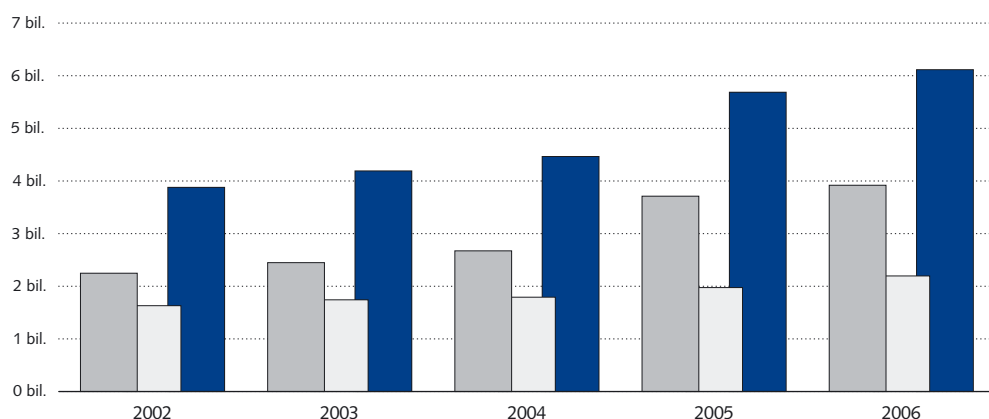
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Intangible	25.52 %	23.45 %	19.56 %	20.50 %	31.53 %
Tangible	57.15 %	58.62 %	59.82 %	67.29 %	68.34 %
Total	56.66 %	58.07 %	59.17 %	66.67 %	67.77 %

* Share of asset value in the ratio of residual value/purchase value



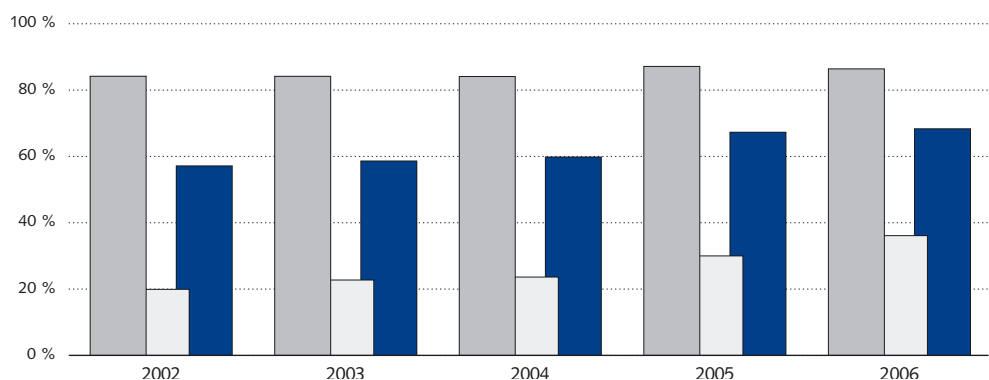


Graph 15 Real and movable assets: purchase value (in thou. CZK)



	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Real assets	2,247,823	2,448,799	2,672,857	3,711,253	3,919,030
Movable assets	1,631,033	1,742,444	1,792,313	1,974,954	2,196,763
Total	3,878,856	4,191,243	4,465,170	5,686,207	6,115,793

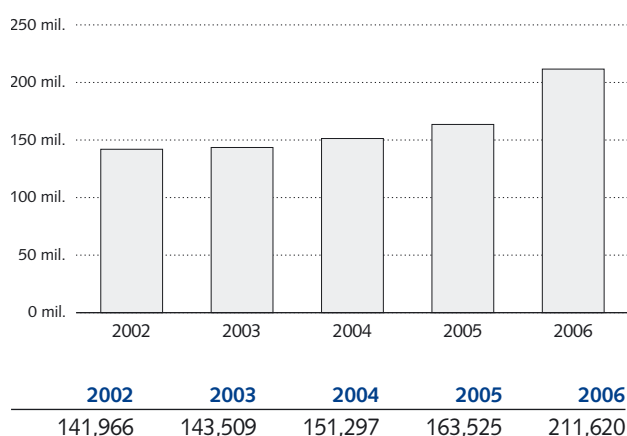
Graph 16 Real and movable assets: depreciation * (in %)



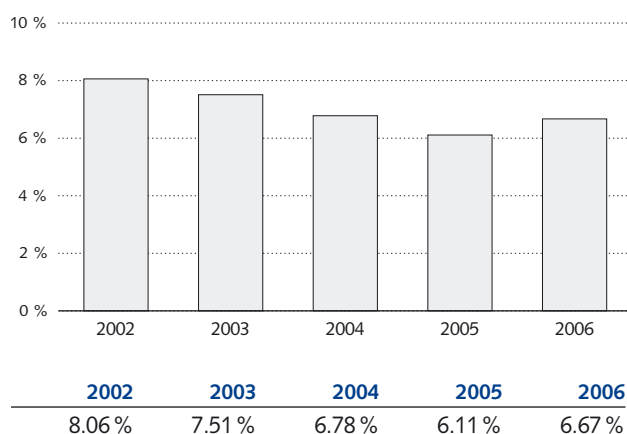
	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Real assets	84.18 %	84.16 %	84.10 %	87.14 %	86.40 %
Movable assets	19.91 %	22.73 %	23.62 %	30.00 %	36.11 %
Total	57.15 %	58.62 %	59.82 %	67.29 %	68.34 %

* Share of asset value in the ratio of residual value/purchase value

Graph 17a Total annual MA asset depreciation
(in thou. CZK)



Graph 17b Total annual MA asset depreciation from total non-capital funding (in %)



Funds

Significant financial indicators also include the balances of funds created pursuant to the Higher Education Act, which obliges universities to create the following seven funds: a fund for bonuses, a reserve fund, a capital assets regeneration fund (hereinafter FRIM), a scholarship and bursary fund, a fund for earmarked financial resources, a social fund and an operational fund. The total value of the individual funds as of 31 December

2006 amounted to 533.7 mil. CZK (an increase of 44 % over the previous year). Balances in the individual funds were as follows: 19.1 mil. CZK (fund for bonuses, up 19 %); 96.3 mil. CZK (reserve fund, no increase); 242.9 mil. CZK (FRIM, up 17 %); 24.4 mil. CZK (scholarship and bursary fund, up 23 %), 41.4 mil. CZK (fund for earmarked financial resources), 11.3 mil CZK (social fund), and 98.3 mil. CZK (operational fund). The latter two funds were created for the first time in 2006. In accordance with the amended Higher Education Act, MU made use of the option to transfer unused contribution from the Ministry of Education to the operational fund (residual non-capital funding) and to FRIM (capital investment funding).

Capital budget

Total capital expenditures by Masaryk University in 2006 (including transfers to funds and funding returned as not having been spent) amounted to 1,482 mil. CZK, comprising 1,040 mil. CZK capital-investment funding, 200 mil. CZK from the loan and 87 mil. CZK from the MU FRIM. Capital expenditures in connection with Programme 233 330 amounted to 1,155 mil. CZK from various funding sources (including 744 mil CZK from the Ministry of Education, 200 mil. CZK from the loan, 155 mil. CZK from the City of Brno and 56 mil. CZK from FRIM). Outside the programme, including teaching and research projects, capital expenditures amounted to 327 mil. CZK, including 296 mil. CZK from capital-investment funding and 31 mil. CZK from the MU FRIM. For detailed information about the Programme for the Development of the Material-Technical Base of Masaryk University see the section on Programme 233 330 above. For the first time in the context of financial planning at MU the amendment of the Higher Education Act allowed for exchange of non-capital funds for capital funds from the contribution to educational, research, development, artistic and other creative activities, to a total of 99 mil. CZK, of which 32 mil. CZK was used for implementation of Programme 233 330 in connection with the revision to the programme approved by a government resolution of 20 July 2005.

Conclusion

The financial statement of Masaryk University was audited and the auditor's declaration was "without reservations", as documented in the appendix to the Annual Financial Report for 2006.



Financial control

Establishment, maintenance and effectiveness of internal control system

An internal control system was established at Masaryk University in accordance with MU's Statutes and Organization Regulations. Its basic element is the system of financial control implemented at MU on the basis of Public Administration Financial Control Act No 320/2001 and its executive decree no. 416/2004.

In 2006 the internal audit function was fully functioning in accordance with Rector's Directive 10/2005 on *MU Internal Audit Statutes* for the systemization of the system of controls, evaluations and audits of MU programme financing. The control activities mainly focus on the system of project management at MU in accordance with Rector's Directive 8/2005 on Administration and Management of MU Projects and, among other things, in relation to the quality management system. In 2006 the internal auditor examined the use of 49 mil. CZK of funding.

In addition to the internal audit a system of preliminary, in-process and subsequent management control was developed and consolidated in accordance with Rector's Directive 2/2005 *Financial Control at MU*.

Control activities concerned not only the control and auditing of the use of financial resources but also whether the results of these activities were proportionate to the costs incurred. In the context of management control, which forms part of the internal control system, the proportion of subsequent financial controls in 2006 amounted to about 76 % of the total number of controls performed (including the preliminary and in-process controls) at the MU financial units. These subsequent financial controls included, among other things, examination of the usefulness, economic effect and effectiveness of the financial resources provided in the minimum volume of 230 mil. CZK. These controls were performed in addition to the standard regular financial controls relating to the use of financial resources.

In 2006 a system of risk management at MU was prepared for implementation, its aim being to systematise control activity and focus it so as to eliminate identified risks on all management levels.

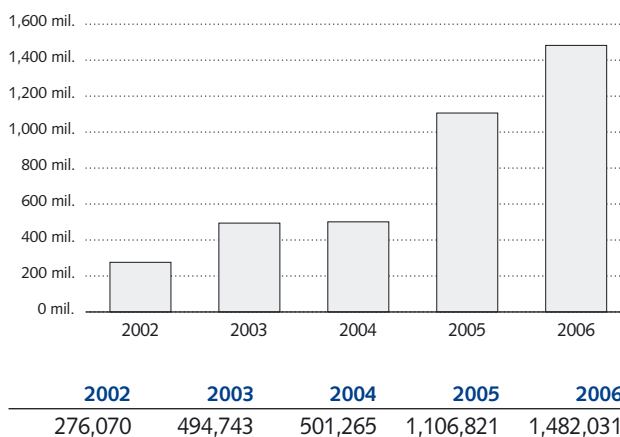
In the course of the financial controls and audits that were carried out no serious shortcomings were found concerning matters related to Sections 22 and 31 of Public Administration Financial Control Act No 320/2001. In 2006 six external controls were implemented focusing on the use of financial resources.

The purpose and intent of the control mechanisms in place at MU is to maintain risks and the internal control system at a reasonable level.

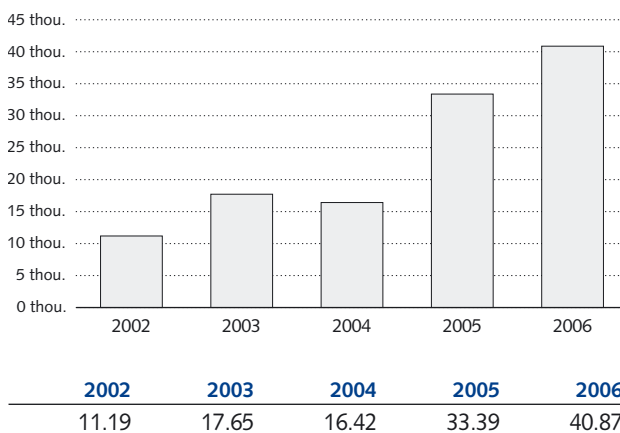
Information about suspicion of possible corruption and proved cases of corruption

Corruption was neither detected nor proved at Masaryk University.

Graph 18a Total MU capital-investment expenditures (in thou. CZK)



Graph 18b Total MU capital-investment expenditures per student (in thou. CZK)



University Computer Rooms

“In 2006 the University Computer Centre at the Faculty of Medicine continued to operate non-stop. The interest of students in the facility, which, with its 109 workstations, has been open round the clock since 2000, remained high. The total number of 348,000 visitors using the services of the centre in 2006 included 14,560 students of MU, who spent 407,000 hours at UCC workstations, among other things printing 880,000 pages.”



Information Infrastructure



Archives

The Masaryk University Archives are included in the national network of archives of the Czech Republic as specialized archives on the basis of sub-section 80 (4) of Act No. 499/2004 on Archiving and Document Services. The MU Archives are the second-largest university archives in the Czech Republic in terms of metres, while the number of archival fonds and collections far surpasses that of any other archives of the same type. About 90 % of the archival materials on deposit have been processed and are available for research and other uses. Category 1 documents, that is, those of exceptional importance, are found in 71 of the archive's fonds. The archives contain material from the period 1829–1997.

The acquisition of documents by the MU Archives pursuant to the regulations on the shredding of documents had to be significantly reduced in 2006 owing to the continuing lack of storage space. The situation should be resolved when the archives are moved to a new location in 2008. The major archival collections and individual items acquired in 2006 (apart from those acquired within the framework of regulations on document shredding) include the large personal fond of Lubomír Doležal, a world-renowned literary scholar of Czech origin, living and working in Canada and an honorary doctor of Masaryk University. In addition to biographical materials and documentation of his scholarly activities the fond also includes Doležal's exceptionally valuable professional correspondence.

In 2006, in cooperation with the Institute of Computer Science, the MU archives started digitalization of the collection of video recordings, hitherto kept on the magnetic carriers U-matic, VHS and

S-VHS. The main purpose of the digitalization is the preserve these recordings, which cannot be guaranteed by the originals (their life does not exceed a decade). For the purpose of archiving, the recordings will be kept in data fields on hard discs and on digital tapes. For research purposes there will be DVD copies. Researchers will be provided with better information about the contents of the collection by means of electronic catalogues with subsequent access to metadata including a sample recording serving as a preview for potential borrowers of the DVDs from the MU archives.

In 2006, the archives were visited by 102 researchers, six of whom came from abroad. More than 320 visits were made in all. Documentation was provided both for historiographic and administrative purposes. Loans of documents outside the archives (including loans for exhibitions at Rajhrad and Třešť) were provided in 48 cases. In the area of documentation, the archives provided 80 copies of diplomas and certificates and roughly 130 confirmations of studies, records of examinations and curricula.

Table 1 Division of the MU Archives by national thematic system (PEvA) (at the end of 2006)

Number	Thematic groups of archive collections	Number of fonds	Size (in metres)
010200	Central offices and their specialized institutions after 1918	1	0.72
090900	Higher education institutions	24	1,295.24
091400	Halls of residence	1	0.36
110200	Personal collections	112	174.09
180104	Political organizations – local and at work	4	3.78
180304	Trade-union organizations – committees at the workplace	8	2.64
180404	National Front Action Committees, NF committees – at the workplace	4	2.64
200300	Student and youth organizations to 1948	2	1.80
200400	Charity, education, health and charitable associations to 1948	2	0.58
200500	Professional associations to 1948	7	2.90
210100	Social organizations 1948-1990	4	1.32
210101	Social organizations 1948-1990 – youth	7	12.42
210102	Social organizations 1948-1990 – sports	1	0.36
210199	Social organizations 1948-1990 – other	1	0.54
210201	Organizations and associations after 1990 – youth	1	0.60
210299	NGOs after 1990	1	0.12
220700	Cultural and academic institutions and facilities – museums and national history and cultural institutes	1	0.12
240000	Charitable institutions and foundations	2	0.84
250200	Collections of posters, leaflets, regulations, newspapers, press, and contemporary documentation	2	19.12
250400	Collections of visual materials, photographs and negatives	3	11.57
250700	Collections of gramophone discs, magnetic tapes and other audio media	1	0.28
250900	Other collections – town-planning and architectural models	1	23.00
250901	Collection of documents and manuscripts	2	3.51
250911	Collection of medals & medallions	1	6.10
250912	Miscellaneous collections – paintings and busts, films and video recordings	2	5.36
Total		195	1,570.01

Libraries

Masaryk University's network of libraries consists of nine central libraries for individual faculties, several central specialized libraries (including the one at the Support Centre for Students with Special Needs) and 123 departmental and specialized libraries at the faculties themselves. The faculty central libraries provide basic library information services at the faculties as well as coordination and methodological guidance for the department and specialized libraries.

All the libraries at MU function as a unified system. A set of MU Library Regulations spells out university policy in the area of library services and removes barriers between faculties where access to library collections is concerned. All internal MU users (students and members of academic or administrative staff) now enjoy equal conditions at all MU libraries. Operation specifics of the individual faculty libraries are stipulated by the library regulations of the particular libraries.

Table 2 Libraries

Faculty/Unit	Faculty central libraries	Special libraries	Number of local libraries	Reading room capacity	Acquisition funds (thou. CZK)	Full-time equivalent staff	Opening hours per week
FL	1	–	1	145	3,322	10.0	53
FM	1	–	70	64	3,330	10.0	47
FS	1	–	16	371	4,862	19.0	42
FA	1	–	20	491	1,231	32.0	71
FE	1	–	15	148	1,000	11.0	46
FEA	1	–	1	150	2,000	10.5	48
FI	1	–	0	32	1,235	2.3	40
FSS	1	–	0	222	3,239	11.0	58
FSpS	1	–	0	20	600	2.0	40
SCSSN	–	1	–	32	497	3.9	40
MU total	9	1	123	1,675	21,316	111.7	Average 49



The MU library network is coordinated by the Library and Information Centre at the Institute of Computer Science, which is responsible for working out the guidelines for the library services at MU. It handles the operations of the centralized library information systems of the university and coordinates the development and use of all faculty library technologies with a view to their compatibility and interoperability. It is also responsible for acquiring and distributing electronic information resources for research and teaching purposes for the whole university.

Adding to the library collections

As of 31 December 2006 there were nearly 1.6 mil. academic library items on deposit at MU libraries, from all academic disciplines studied at the university. Libraries subscribed to 2,500 specialized periodicals in print form. The year's increase was over 56,000 library items; the MU libraries spent 21.3 mil. CZK on acquisition.

Accessibility of electronic information sources

Masaryk University has access to a wide spectrum of international and domestic electronic information sources for study, research and teaching purposes, covering every discipline found at the university. Its

information resources in the form of full-text journals, collections of articles and other academic and specialized publications in electronic form, as well as its analytical, bibliographic, citation and encyclopaedic databases, are fully comparable to those of leading international universities. In addition to the dozens of extensive online megasources that are available, with many thousands of periodical titles, and hundreds of information databases accessible university-wide (see http://library.muni.cz/e_zdroje.html). A number of other highly-specialized academic information sources are also accessible at the individual faculties.

University electronic information sources are accessible to any computer linked to the university computer network. For students and staff accessing sources outside the university network, proxy and VPN servers enable external access using the MU Information System's unique authorization mechanisms.

Most of the costs of acquiring these licensed electronic information sources are covered through the Ministry of Education 1 N grant programme (information infrastructure research). In 2006 about 5 mil. CZK worth of electronic information sources was purchased using Masaryk University's own funds.

Table 3 MU library collections

Faculty/Unit	Library items			Periodical titles (print)		Number of new items		Reduction in items
	Total	Books and periodicals	Open-shelf access	No. of titles	No. of copies	Total	Books + periodicals.	
FL	126,201	114,357	55,800	386	458	3,560	2,791	9,301
FM	140,248	138,923	24,126	225	285	3,154	2,923	936
FS	343,410	270,460	150,970	847	1,193	5,684	4,855	2,717
FA	739,252	721,133	166,097	350	375	21,560	20,680	3,618
FE	146,315	140,582	35,270	217	298	8,459	7,071	3,230
FEA	47,375	43,222	43,222	131	230	4,479	3,900	319
FI	15,244	13,163	13,163	92	95	1,648	1,302	8
FSS	42,285	38,398	24,590	186	199	5,137	4,455	60
FSpS	9,173	7,969	8,612	66	86	2,121	1,784	24
SCSSN	3,208	1,480	1,480	0	0	425	205	40
MU total	1,612,711	1,489,687	523,330	2,500	3,219	56,227	49,966	20,253

Table 4 Library services

Faculty/Unit	Registered users	Registered loans	Inter-library loan service	International loan service	Research services	Instructional sessions for users	Number of copies made
FL	6,900	90,495	146	–	–	1	110,918
FM	3,249	66,000	799	20	780	94	1,980
FS	4,842	45,437	1,210	177	12	76	–
FA	13,684	177,590	814	–	707	24	50,421
FE	12,402	81,019	176	13	20	56	–
FEA	5,607	75,990	136	39	–	12	–
FI	2,526	11,000	92	36	–	5	–
FSS	5,596	51,373	343	55	–	14	9,532
FSpS	1,418	14,021	120	30	18	–	12,855
SCSSN	58	199	–	–	–	–	25,855
MU total	56,282	613,124	3,836	370	1,537	282	211,561

Coordinating library and information services

The basic library and information services (cataloguing, lending, electronic catalogue, acquisition) are supported at MU by the central library system Aleph 500. In the summer of 2005 the central libraries from all MU faculties were brought into the Aleph-MU system. Over 56,000 users are registered in the automated library system, which processed more than 613,000 loans from the MU collections in 2006. Via the web, users can search for information on documents in the MU catalogue as well as in the catalogues of the individual faculties. They can reserve and extend loans, check their reader's account and carry out other operations on line.

The university's automated library system contains around 800,000 bibliographic entries, which cover the complete periodicals collection and 45 % of the university's book collection. All of the new acquisitions from about 1990 are available in electronic form, as well as older items that continue to be borrowed; the only collections not covered are some of those in departmental libraries and older, little-used items, although even they are being steadily brought into the electronic catalogue. At the Faculty of Arts, old collections can be searched by means of scanned index cards. Besides monograph and periodical catalogues, some faculties are building an indexed database of academic articles.

University electronic services

At the central level, the MU Library and Information Centre is engaged in the development and operation of three library information systems providing basic electronic services to the university public:

- the Aleph 500 library system – <http://aleph.muni.cz/>
(faculty catalogues and the MU union catalogue available on the web – searches, information on loans, reservations, extensions),
- the library portal – <http://library.muni.cz>
(combines all basic information and services of the MU libraries),
- the portal of electronic information sources – <http://library.muni.cz/ezdroje/>
(information about electronic information sources available at MU and access to them).

At the faculty level, the central libraries provide other electronic services according to the specific needs of the faculties they serve and the limits of their capacity (for example the digitalization of old printed materials at the Faculty of Arts, a full-text electronic archive of all theses at the Faculty of Economics and Administration, the electronic delivery of documents at the Faculty of Education, a virtual library at the Faculty of Social Studies, and others).

Instruction and training of users

The instruction and training of users is handled by the faculties' central libraries, depending on the resources and needs of the individual faculties and fields of study. In all for 2006, 282 sessions were held, focusing especially on orientation in the library, work with the library system and the use of electronic information sources. Lectures and instructional sessions for 1st-year students (as part of classes) are organized at four faculties (Arts, Economics and Administration, Education and Science). At the Faculty of Education an e-learning course called "How to work with specialized information" was introduced as a regular course within the MU credit system. At the Faculty of Medicine there is a course for doctoral students on how to search for and access scientific information.

A number of MU librarians serve as teachers in the Bachelor's and Master's programmes in Information Studies and Library Science, which is offered at the Faculty of Arts.

Library personnel – qualifications, lifelong learning

There is a total of 111.7 full-time equivalent employees at MU libraries. More than one-third of them have university degrees (65 % of these in library specializations), two-thirds have secondary school education (83 % in library specializations).

Familiarity with library standards and principles (MARC 21, AACR2) is regularly updated in sessions run by qualified Library and Information Centre personnel. As the opportunity or need arises, library staff take part in professional training sessions and seminars run by the Moravian Library in Brno and the National Library in Prague.

Table 5 Electronic records

Faculty/Unit	Number of electronic entries in the MU library system			
	Monographs	% of collection	Serials (titles)	Articles
FL	81,225	71	742	6,278
FM	54,951	40	716	–
FS	123,856	46	3,504	37
FA	216,618	30	2,810	24
FE	96,900	69	328	311
FEA	43,222	100	148	8,548
FI	13,163	100	290	–
FSS	38,398	100	404	36,756
FSpS	7,969	100	95	–
SCSSN	1,480	100	–	–
MU total	677,782	45	9,037	51,954

Table 6 Qualification of library staff

Faculty/Unit	Full-time equivalent staff (total)	of which			
		univ. educ.	lib. spec.	sec. educ.	lib. spec.
FL	10.0	2.0	1.0	8.0	8.0
FM	10.0	4.0	1.0	6.0	6.0
FS	19.0	8.5	8.0	10.5	9.0
FA	32.0	12.0	9.0	20.0	13.0
FE	11.0	2.5	2.0	8.5	7.5
FEA	10.5	5.0	2.0	5.5	4.5
FI	2.3	0.3	0.0	2.0	2.0
FSS	11.0	6.0	4.0	5.0	5.0
FSpS	2.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0
SCSSN	3.9	2.9	1.0	1.0	0.0
MU total	111.7	43.2	28.0	68.5	57.0



In 2006, 25 librarians were enrolled in English language courses offered within the MU internationalization programme; 6 librarians gained higher specialized qualifications through university studies.

Other activities

A brief overview of other important library activities in 2006:

- **Library system:** Preparatory work was carried out for the use of the Aleph system by the Janáček Academy of Performing Arts in Brno, including data conversion from the KP-SYS system.
- **Library integration:** Design and organizational preparations for the joint Information Centre of the Faculties of Medicine, Science and Sports Studies at the University Campus at Bohunice continued. The Faculty of Science carried out extensive activity focusing on the integration of individual library collections and their transfer to the new central library (integration was completed with regard to the physics and astrophysics col-

lections; records were acquired in the case of the geology, mineralogy and geography collections). Work commenced on the electronic cataloguing of three departmental libraries at the Faculty of Arts (the Departments of History, Musicology, and Art History).

- **Network of university computer rooms:** The computer rooms of four faculty central libraries with 230 computers (Faculty of Arts – 120; Faculty of Science – 82; Faculty of Social Studies – 18; Faculty of Education – 10) were included in the network of university computer rooms, and thus began to offer unified information, data and a single computing environment for users across MU.

MU libraries traditionally carry out the large-scale exchange of academic publications with several thousand academic institutions around the world. Besides mutually beneficial cooperation and contacts, this significantly enriches the university collections, especially in the areas of periodicals and serial literature.

Information and communication technology

Information and communication technology (ICT) at the university is maintained and developed by the MU Institute of Computer Science (ICS). It is responsible for the operation and expansion of the centralized computer system, information systems and communication infrastructure of the university. It issues methodological guidelines for the Computer Science Laboratory and other specialized ICT units at the faculty level, and takes part in research and teaching activities.

Centralized computer systems

The ICS manages the complex communications, data and computer infrastructure at the university as well as part of the national network CESNET2. Centralized computer systems of the ICS provide for the technical side of the operation of key systems at MU. The most important of these are a large part of the Integrated Control and Information System (IRIS MU), central elements of basic network services, the centralized library system, web presentation of MU and the central server infrastructure of the university computer rooms.

In 2006 considerable attention was paid to substantial extension of computing capacities. The capacity of terminal servers was multiplied to provide for user interface to the quickly growing numbers of IRIS clients (financial accounts, wages and salaries, etc.). Increased capacity was also needed in the area of servers for basic network services, in particular the electronic mail system. New computing capacities also reinforced local as well as remote access to specific applications for university computer rooms. New systems were acquired for the safe storage of data at a higher technological level (SAN type). All technology improvements, in addition to provision of the required output for the end users, also aimed at increased reliability of all services as an equally important goal. It was with these ends in mind that

the volume and performance capacities of the backup library at Komenského nám 2 were extended.

Together with the extension of central technology capacity, adjustments were needed for the powering and cooling systems of the principal data centres in order to create acceptable physical conditions for the operation of all equipment, especially in the summer. Lack of floor space in the data centres (together with the need to increase capacity) speeded up the replacement of old equipment with substantially more compact models, even when this brought increased acquisition costs.

Purchases, distribution and central support for the university continued in the area of universal programme components for client stations from the Microsoft Select programme, anti-virus and security systems and university-wide application packages for statistics and mathematics.

Supercomputer Centre Brno (SCB)

This unit of the ICS is responsible for the development of distributed computer and data systems. At the same time it handles high-performance computer operations mainly for the purposes of processing of large amounts of data. The SCB is also responsible for the area of systems for remote cooperation, including support for videoconferencing systems (such as, for example, e-learning). In the area of grids the SCB is a de facto national research centre, through both its direct involvement in the joint Faculty of Information and ICS research project called "Highly Parallel and Distributed Computer Systems" and its involvement in the EU excellence network CoreGRID, as well as its close cooperation with the CESNET grouping and through it with other universities in the Czech Republic and the Czech Academy of Science.

The SCB manages MU's high-performance computer systems (in addition to those it has traditionally been responsible for, in particular the system for the

National Centre for Biomolecular Research) and is involved with the administration of CESNET's clusters. In 2006 computing capacities were significantly reinforced, mainly through the purchase of four parallel Sun SunFire 4600 servers. Each of these servers has 64 GB of main memory and is equipped with eight dual-core AMD Opteron processors with 64-bit architecture. Three of these computers were purchased from MU's own financial resources and the above-mentioned research project; they represent a significant enhancement of the computing capacities at MU. The fourth computer with these parameters and a cluster with 35 nodes in total (each equipped with two Intel Woodcrest dual core processors) was purchased by CESNET. In 2006 the SCB thus doubled the number of processors (or cores) it administers – from 205 in 2005 to nearly 410. All newly acquired computer systems are further equipped with Infiniband cards allowing for their connection to high-speed (20 Gbps) and low-latency (about 1 microsecond) dedicated networks. Thus the servers and the cluster will form a parallel supercomputer with more than 200 cores and nearly 400 GB of internal memory. For the purpose of back-up data storage for MU and other institutions, the SCB operates a 200 TB tape library. In 2006 the SCB further managed over 25 TB of disc capacity, distributed across the Czech Republic.

In the context of involvement in the joint research project of the Faculty of Informatics and the ICS, SCB focused mainly on the area of monitoring of the grid infrastructure, research in the area of distributed environments for cooperation and support of applications. The SCB also continued to be involved in research as part of the CoreGRID network of excellence in the 6th Framework Programme, where in the course of the year the research was extended from the original area monitoring infrastructure and workflow systems to the area of grid-based planning. The research results, summarized in several dozen professional publications, confirm the privileged position of MU ICS in these areas.

The university computer network and communications infrastructure

The Institute of Computer Science develops and operates the backbone of the university computer network, with direct connection to CESNET 2. The backbone of the university network is operated with Gigabit Ethernet technology, and comprises over 90 junctions and 100 kilometres of fibre-optic cable with several thousand strands. For connecting to places outside the optic network, radio connections in licensed as well as licence-free bands are used. To support administration of this extensive network ICS manages its own information system based on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technologies.

In 2006, further extension and improvement of the backbone infrastructure of MU took place, including both new transmission routes and technological reinforcement of the network. Construction was begun of a new route for backup data and voice lines for the University Campus in Bohunice and the Faculty of Education, together with reinforcement of the exposed tube routes in the city centre. The total length

of the newly implemented tube routes was 4.7 km, while 5.4 km of new fibre optic cable routes were laid. In the area of technological development of the backbone network of MU the most significant changes in 2006 included acquisition of two new high-performance routers connecting the university to the CESNET2 backbone network at a speed of 10Gbit/s. These new elements will allow for increased transmission capacity of the critical backbone lines of MU and the connection of the ICS with the backup centre at Komenského náměstí, again at a speed of 10Gbit/s. In 2006 the University Campus at Bohunice is planned to be connected at the same speed.

Another significant change in the university computer network was the full operational launch of the Eduroam system, which will allow authorised users of other academic institutions to use the infrastructure of the MU network and mobile users from MU to use the infrastructures of the other networks connected to the Eduroam system. Extension and security development of the Medimed network continued. This network connects remote hospitals to central servers of medical applications. A new infrastructure was prepared for the connection of local hospitals in order to ensure increased reliability in case of the failure of one of the server localities. Equipment at the backup centre for central servers in the Masaryk University Computer Centre was improved. To increase the resistance of the backbone network of MU to power cuts the number of nodes equipped with continuous power sources was extended.

Voice communications network

In 2006, MU's new voice network was in full operation. Thanks to the concept chosen, the investment incurred in acquiring the system has largely been returned. Most operational activities were related to changes in the location of university offices and staff, mainly at the Faculty of Science, and increases in both academic and non-academic staff. This led to the need to increase the number of licences needed to establish new outlets. The voice network was extended with a new satellite exchange located at the Družba residences in Kounicova street and IP technology was used to connect the Centre for Students with Special Needs in Šumavská street. Technical and programming adjustments increased the safety and robustness of the whole system. The overall number of installed outlets is now 4450. The MU switchboard and information desk at the ICS call centre handled over 37,300 calls in 2006 – on working days an average of 150 calls a day, at peak periods as many as 440 calls in a single day.

University Computer Rooms

In 2006 the University Computer Centre (UCC) at the Faculty of Medicine in Komenského náměstí (<http://studovna.muni.cz>) continued to operate non-stop. The interest of students in the facility, which, with its 109 workstations, has been open round the clock since 2000, remained high. A total of 14,560 MU students made 348,000 visits in 2006, spending 407,000 hours at UCC workstations and printing 880,000 pages.



After six years of non-stop operation a large scale reconstruction of the UCC was implemented in the summer months of 2006. One of the two main goals of this work was the renewal and replacement of the existing computer equipment. The other goal was to increase the insufficient capacity of the room to respond to the great interest of the students in the services provided. As more space for the UCC could not be provided within the existing location, the reconstruction concentrated on more effective use of the space already available. Thanks to careful preparation the changed layout of the individual rooms resulted in 20 new student workstations, thus increasing the capacity of the UCR to 129 workstations. This was done in compliance with the relevant legal norms and regulations and, in the opinion of the users, without any deterioration in the quality of the facility. The overall capacity of the UCC is now 129 workstations, with another 16 connection points for laptops.

In addition to the above-mentioned reconstruction of the UCC, a university-wide network of computer rooms was developed in the summer of 2006 as well (<http://ups.muni.cz>). The University Computer Rooms network includes the UCC plus other computer rooms at the individual faculties operating under a unified administration system and providing a uniform environment and services for all MU students, independently of the location of the room. The computer room of the Information Centre of the Faculty of Science was extended with another 36 PCs. The room at the Faculty of Education was extended with 10 PCs in the faculty library. The 120 new computers installed in the central library of the Faculty of Arts are also part of the University Computer Rooms network. Five faculties of MU now offer users 390 workstations fully integrated into the University Computer Rooms system. It is also worth mentioning that the workstations can be used not only by students but also by all employees of MU.

E-learning Support Centre

In 2006 the ICS was again responsible for coordinating university wide e-learning activities in the context of a development project of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The two employees of eCentrum, a support centre for electronic forms of learning that was established in 2005, focused on the organization of training sessions and seminars, methodological assistance to course authors, the evaluation of e-learning lectures and the coordination of related activities at the university level. eCentrum also organized the selection, implementation and evaluation of major courses, when eight selected teams at MU received targeted funding the project budget aimed at the creation of a complex e-learning package.

ICS provided technological background for the development project in the form of the further development of the multimedia archives and resources for the automatic processing of lectures. The storage capacity of the central archives was increased to 2*20 TB (the recorded lectures are stored redundantly to prevent their inaccessibility should one server crash). Direct connection to the MU IS was worked out to ensure the credentials of users and provide authorization checks of access rights. Processing ca-

capacity for recoding of the recorded lectures was also significantly increased. Thanks to these activities MU now has no difficulty in dealing fully with the ever increasing interest in records of and access to lectures.

University information systems

The ICS is responsible for the development, operation and integration of university-wide information systems, used to help ensure the smooth operation of the university in many areas. These are as follows:

- Science and research
- Finances and accounting
- Human resources and payroll management
- Operations
- Geographically oriented information services
- Libraries
- External relations (public web presentation of MU)
- Most recently, the area of Document services was added.

Together with the MU IS system for the support of studies and teaching (run by a team at the Faculty of Informatics) these systems are part of MU's Integrated Control and Information System (IRIS MU), the overall concept of which is also, for the most part, the responsibility of the ICS.

The individual ICS systems are implemented as specialized database applications only accessible to authorized professional staff of MU through special client programs. Wider communities of users at MU (from heads of departments and project managers to ordinary employees) can access selected data of these applications via the web interface within the university's Intranet Inet MU, while the general public can use the Internet presentation of MU on www.muni.cz.

The major events of 2006 in the field of information systems included replacement of the human resources and payroll system with newly developed applications, implementation of a new form of the web presentation of the university, development of the SUPO system to replace the MU clearing system and implementation of a completely new application for document services. The remaining modules of the information system underwent continuous development in response to needs and requests.

IS for research

The information system for research, established in 1999, was intended primarily as a means of support for the Research Offices at the faculties and data administration for the public Internet presentation of MU. It contains the central information files on research projects and long-term research plans, habilitation and doctoral proceedings and the composition of the Academic Senates, the Scientific Boards and MU's other official bodies. In 2006 extensive restructuring, started in 2005, continued. The administration of data on proceedings relating to academic qualifications was transferred to the university intranet Inet MU (578 proceedings since 1999 are now filed). The administration of data on the makeup of academic bodies was incorporated in MU's new human resources and payroll system.

Another purpose served by the reconstruction of the database of projects and long-term research plans

is their transfer to Inet MU and, simultaneously, the extension of the scope of the data recorded. The new system will go beyond the current recording of identification details and descriptive information on projects to cover their financial aspects as well, thus providing structured access to financial data not only to Research Offices but also to Finance Offices and project managers and facilitating the entry of data needed for creating budgets and planning expenditures. For this purpose 2006 saw the revision of the funding source classifier in the financial IS and the development of web-based technical means for interconnecting the project database with the Budgets and Orders modules in the financial information system. Inet MU includes a newly developed application for supporting the administration of funding source classifiers of investors and programmes and for the printing of structured output project information sheets. The data of all ongoing projects at MU are systematically collected and the current project database includes 2,547 projects carried out at MU since 1991.

Financial IS

Information support in the area of finances and accounting is provided to the university's finance officers and leading administrative staff in this area (currently around 420 users) by the Magion electronic information service, from the external contractor Magion Systems. This system, operated over a cluster of terminal servers, is made up of the Financial Accounting module (including Receivables, Payables, Liabilities, Bank, Cash desk and Business trips) along with modules for Storerooms, Property, Purchase orders and Budgets. The ICS operates these modules and ensures their integration into the IRIS MU, and provides intranet access to selected financial indicators for individual MU units and users. In 2006 the development of the financial IS focused on an extension of functionality in the areas of financial control, contract records and their links to liabilities, the building of a link to the above-mentioned project database and other adaptations following from amendments to external legislation as well as internal bylaws and changed methodological models.

Human resources and payroll IS and ID cards

The year 2006 saw implementation of a new human resources and payroll system at MU. On the basis of a tender an external supplier for the system was selected, Magion Systems. In cooperation with this firm the information needs of MU were analysed and the results of the analyses were implemented on the software level and integrated into IRIS MU. The result was the expansion of EIS Magion to include payroll modules, the creation of superstructures in Inet MU, the creation of an interface for payroll data transfer to the public Internet presentation of MU and other systems of IRIS MU and an interface for integration of the portfolio of persons with personal details in the IS MU study system. The payroll modules provide information support to the human resources and payroll departments at MU (currently about 50 users). The superstructures in Inet MU are designed for heads and administrative staff of departments and for

individual MU employees. The new system covers all areas of administration and human resource management, i.e. administration of the portfolio of persons, organizational structure records, the systemisation of job positions, records of employee, managerial and teaching positions, personal files on employees, payroll processing, education support and support for labour safety and health protection, the administration of job advertisements and records of membership in boards and committees. In parallel with the implementation of the new system a new form of support for pension schemes was introduced for MU employees as well as other changes following from amendments to regulations and changed methodological models. The new payroll system was launched on 1 January 2007 with subsequent connection of the public Internet presentation of MU and Inet MU.

University personnel records are also connected with personalized chip MU ID cards for students and employees, which are the responsibility of the ICS from the development and operation of the programme equipment to the actual photographing of persons and the production of ID cards (ISIC, ITIC, employee cards, etc.). In 2006, in the context of Inet, completely new software was developed to replace the former software, which was technologically outdated. The new system, also launched on 1 January 2007, supports distributed photo centres and the combination of on/off line communication with the central portfolio of persons when photographs are being taken. The cards, besides serving for general identification purposes, also provide secure access to the university's information systems, enable entry to protected areas (including the University Computer Centre), are used to order and obtain meals in university canteens and cafeterias, etc. Some 10,500 cards were produced in 2006.

University intranet and Clearing

The intranet system Inet MU is a university information system based on web technology whose task is to provide local sites (heads and researchers, leading administrative staff, etc.) and particular individuals at MU with selected information and services in the areas of personnel information, payroll data, research, technical and operational services (including the operation of university computer rooms) and internal information sources (minutes, regulations, instructions, address lists). The system is used regularly by more than 60 % of the employees (some 2,500 persons) and 25 % of the students (some 8,500 persons) and is visited by around 700 people a day on average. In 2006 it was the financial part of Inet that saw the greatest expansion – financial spread sheets for budget areas and projects, the application of the clearing system (see below) and support for property records and stocktaking. In the technical and operational services section, support for the printing of ID cards was added; the agenda relating to keeping the records of, managing and operating university properties was further developed; the system for the administration and operation of the central telephone exchange was expanded; and support for recording and administering MU mobile phones was introduced. The section of internal information resources was extended with



applications of the editorial system for www.muni.cz. In view of the sensitivity of the data processed, security measures were made more stringent.

A very important part of Inet is the application support for Clearing MU, the university system for the central payment of fees for services provided by the university to individual persons. Its predecessor was a pilot project limited to cash payments for accommodation and services at the MU residences. The new clearing system was launched in October 2006 following an extensive analysis guaranteeing its full compliance with the accounting and tax legislation of the Czech Republic. The system has been integrated with EIS Magion, for which it represents operative accounting records. Data transferral between external systems recording and administering the individual services provided is the responsibility of a specially developed communication interface and protocol. Towards the end of 2006 preparatory work was started on a university-wide operational directive for the clearing system, which it is expected will come into force in the first quarter of 2007.

Geographic information systems

Geographic information systems (GIS) provide information on exact locations and present data in spatial contexts with the help of digital maps. This makes them an effective instrument for information systems dealing with objects in space. For several years the ICS has been using GIS technology with its own systems for maintaining and managing the Brno academic computer network (IS BAPS). In 2006 user rights administration was extended and improved, and the functions of IS BAPS were extended to include the actual position of devices and patch panels and covers of WiFi sites. Another improvement was the integration of IS BAPS with the Land Register Information System. Technology was upgraded and the strong client IS BAPS is now operated within a cluster of terminal servers.

In the area of building and technology documentation, MU continued with the development of a geo-database of buildings and rooms at MU, with the emphasis on increased quality of data. The Intranet application for accessibility of data in the building documentation files was expanded to include an editing option. In connection with the construction of the University Campus at Bohunice and future deployment of a system for building operations management, MU devised and approved a Building Management System policy.

Library system

The operations and services of the MU libraries are supported by the automated library system Aleph. Through its web interface, this system also helps users search for information on documents in MU libraries and carries out several on-line services.

In 2006 the Aleph system was connected to the archives of university qualification theses submitted for proceedings involving the granting of qualifications that is found in IS MU. This brought a significant reduction in the work involved in creating bibliographic entries for these in libraries and created a link between the bibliographic entries in

the catalogues and the full texts of the works in the IS MU archives.

At present there are about 800,000 bibliographic references in the Aleph-MU catalogue, which has some 50,000 registered users. Basic library services in the areas of cataloguing, lending and access to information on the collections have been made fully automatic, both at the faculty level and throughout MU as a whole.

Public web presentation of MU

The bilingual (Czech and English) Internet presentation of MU (web and wap) provides the general public with general as well as detailed information about all constituent parts of MU and the spectrum of University activities on the basis of the principle of unified information content, a unified presentation form and automated intake of information from the databases of IRIS MU. On 18 September 2006 a new version of the presentation was launched, respecting the unified visual style of MU and based on a new technical solution. The launch was preceded by an extensive analysis of requirements for the graphic design, contents and navigation system. Most of the implementation work was carried out during the summer. The graphic design and implementation of the graphic templates and elements were subcontracted to the external graphic studio ExactDesign. The technical solution was completely designed and implemented by the ICS. Towards the end of the year Inet developed the first applications of the editing system for administration of the contents of the web presentation at www.muni.cz (information texts, images, banners). This will continue in 2007. The presentation, whose weekly visitor rate increased in 2006 to over 14,500 different IP addresses (up 69 % over 2005), is operated through a cluster of web servers and a separate data server, fully covered by a backup server.

Document administration and services IS

An information system for document administration and document services, implemented as part of the 2006 development project, is a completely new element in IRIS MU. As in the case of the payroll system, a tender was held for the selection of an external contractor and Magion Systems was awarded the contract. It worked with MU on an extensive analysis of the university's information needs and the results of the analysis were implemented on the software level. The outcome was an extension of the EIS and Payroll modules through the addition of a Document services modules. For the time being, the system is operated through a separate server and is accessible to only a few selected sectors at MU (administrators of document nodes – currently about 40 users). In the first quarter of 2007 the Document services modules will be transferred to the same database as the EIS and Payroll modules and fully integrated into IRIS MU. The following step will be creating the necessary superstructures within Inet MU for individuals – those who receive documents. In the course of 2007 the Document services IS will be made accessible to all constituent parts of MU in stages. The implementation of the Document services IS includes the

Documentum system, designed for the storage and administration of documents with which IS Magion works, as well as of documents in the newly built

digital library of MU and possibly other MU information systems.

Masaryk University Information System

The Masaryk University Information System (IS MU) is an authorized web information system that covers nearly every area of student administration and several other MU agendas. IS MU is operated and developed by the IS MU Development Team, part of the members of the Computer Systems Unit at the Faculty of Informatics of MU. Access to the public part of the system is at is.muni.cz.

As of 31 December 2006, 89,852 active users had an MU Information System password. The system was regularly used by 42,662 persons, while 48,946 accessed the system occasionally. In 2006 a total of 65,028 e-applications were submitted during the MU admissions procedures. A total of 39,087 persons read some kind of message on the Notice Board; 19,832 students submitted comments on the quality of the teaching at MU in an anonymous survey. E-learning agendas again experienced massive growth – there were 78,001 posts in topical discussion forums, and in the section Study Materials alone there are 188,231 files. In 2006 2,396 sets of test questions were developed for tests, examinations and teaching surveys. The system performed 3,857,689 full text document searches in various languages and 332,859 documents were searched for their similarity to other documents (for example in order to determine plagiarism). In 2006 the e-mail server mail.muni.cz delivered some 14 million messages.

Overall statistics

- Number of accesses in 2006: 224,549,821
- Maximum number of different users signing on in a single day: 23,630
- Maximum number of open pages in the system in one day: 1,458,143
- Maximum server performance: approximately 347,700 requests fulfilled in an hour (averaged)
- Total number of individual programmes in the system: approximately 1400
- Data storage: some 970 database tables in around 80 categories
- Number of publication entries: 506, 466 (of which, for the Ministry of Education's list of information on research results: 64,187)
- Total server down time: about 12 hours
- Help section: 69 sections (633 questions)

Operational technology

In 2006 the performance of database servers increased. The growing pressure on the computer capacity of the data section of IS MU is caused by the continuous development of new applications, increasing scope of data processed by the system, and increasing number of users using the system for everyday routine work or teaching. Performance optimization has resulted in reduced response time even at peak load periods.

Modernization was carried out in the distributed data repository used for unified administration of non-structured data, such as study materials, official university documents and final theses. Free gross capacity was effectively increased by an impressive 9 TB. Thus the applications are able to enter into the system nearly 4.5 TB of non-structured data.

At the beginning of the academic year the volume of spam received multiplied, clogging the mail server mail.muni.cz. For that reason the software architecture of the mail server and the spam recognition mechanism were significantly rebuilt in the latter half of 2006.

Towards the end of the year the IS MU infrastructure was extended with a pair of new dedicated servers to serve for more unified typesetting of specialized texts, such as mathematical and chemical formula, unmanageable by the existing mechanisms, for display within the IS MU electronic support for studies. The purpose of the project is the further development of the IS MU e learning options.

In 2006 the Masaryk University IS underwent the major stage of a shift to support of Unicode characters, thus allowing for extension of the character sets used by the alphabets of Central European languages to a universal character set (including Russian, French, Japanese, etc. characters). The first stage, transfer of the database to internal UTF-8 encoding, had already been implemented in 2005. In 2006 the following step involved transfer of the application infrastructure to work with UTF-8 encoding both internally and towards the user.

Development and operation

Every year, on the basis of cooperation with the university departments and other units, their requirements are implemented in IS MU. In addition, administrative processes are identified for subsequent simplification and streamlining. Suggestions from ordinary users are taken into consideration in the process, making an important contribution to the overall development of the system.

The system witnessed unusual development in the area of the course of studies and administration, including:

- Public archives of final theses
- Improvement of the electronic application form
- New version of the Diploma Supplement (including a copy)
- New file administrator
- Applications in support of student grant programmes
- The studies agenda
- Automated transfer of files to PDF format
- Thematic and full text search, graduate search
- Collection of accreditation data
- System for recording publications
- Employee records



In 2006 great attention was paid to:

- Advanced development of e learning
- The service for the search for similar files
- Design and development of system navigation focusing on user friendliness
- Support for the disabled
- Translation of a considerable part of IS MU into English

Support during the course of studies and for administration

The most extensive applications developed were represented by applications implemented in response to new institutional conditions in higher education and at the university or on the basis of possibilities that were identified for streamlining teaching practice.

Final theses archives

The requirement for publication of final university theses is stipulated by the amended Higher Education Act effective as of 1 January 2006. IS MU was used for the publication of all Bachelor's, Master's, advanced Master's ("rigorozní") and doctoral theses. The theses may be searched thematically (by faculty, type of studies, name, year of graduation, degree received, department where thesis was written, degree programme or field of study) or through full text search. Great care was taken to enable interested parties to read the theses in open formats (which ensures they will remain readable, being independent of any particular software program, even for some time in the future).

Improvement of the electronic application form

Since 2002 applicants for admission to MU have been able to use the option of applying electronically for admission to MU. The applicants for the year 2007/2008 were provided with a new modernised e-application form that differed from the former one mainly in the graphic design and in user-friendly navigation, making it easier to fill in. A number of fundamental changes were implemented that affected the Offices for Studies at the faculties as well as the applicants. The application also takes into account specific features of individual fields of study. Among the advantages of the new e application is the option to select from the list of study fields according to faculty and subject name. The applicant is required to fill out his or her personal data only once for all e-applications submitted to MU, and is relieved from having to fill in numbers of money order slips or paper applications. The applicant can also find out in IS MU when his or her payment reached the university, whether his or her e-application was accepted, and further information about entrance examination dates, the invitation to the entrance examination and related instructions, his or her results in the entrance examination, status of admission for studies and other information.

New version of the Diploma Supplement

A new version of the European Diploma Supplement has now been added for doctoral students and students at the advanced Master's ("rigorozní") stage. The document was changed in terms of contents

and graphics and adapted to the new unified visual style of the university. The student can preview the Diploma Supplement before completion of his or her studies and can check the data. When being printed, a copy of the document is stored in the duplicate archives related to the student section of the system (Admission), where the system places the student's documents and where he or she has permanent access to them. This means that the student receives his or her diploma in printed form but may also use its electronic version in PDF format.

New file administrator

The new version of the File Administrator integrates a considerable number of tools into a graphically compact manager, similar to the popular Windows Commanders. The new properties concern a link to the HTML editor, a more transparent display of folders/files on the screen, their sorting, the bulk handling of setting and operations, a display of statistical data, access rights and intuitive operation principles.

The File Administrator is used within the Document Server for access to documents, decrees, directives, instructions, minutes of meetings, etc. by the general public, the faculties, Dean's Councils, Academic Senates, etc., within the Study Materials agenda for displaying lectures, learning materials, electronic student work, and within the Final Theses Archives, and within the Depository for file forwarding to other users, especially for the forwarding of large files rejected by e mail.

Applications in support of student grant programmes

The extensive complex of scholarship and bursary applications offers services for records of grant programmes and payments. The applications take into account the MU Scholarship and Bursary Regulations, link up to the financial system, payment methods for grant, etc. The applications also permit employees to work with the register of grant programmes (with the exception of the accommodation grant, whose rules are clearly defined by the Ministry of Education and which is linked to the student register), to compile and endorse bulk payment orders for grant payments, to print grant lists or export data. The application is also used by students in applying for an accommodation grant, entering their bank account number, viewing the grant programmes and proposed and confirmed grants and when they wish to see the commentary to the Scholarship and Bursary Regulations.

Studies

- Amendments to the Study and Examinations Regulations were applied, e.g. the inclusion of recognized courses in the number of regular and resit examination sessions.
- The new system of credits for doctoral studies was implemented and classification scales were unified for all types of studies.
- To help Offices for Studies, check-ups on the course of studies through an optional questionnaire according to control templates were implemented.

- Changes required by the student register were applied.
- A new method for limiting enrolment in physical training courses was introduced.

Automatic transfer of files to PDF format

IS MU implemented the automatic conversion of documents in the data repository to PDF format. This complements the existing ability of the system to transfer documents in MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint and other formats into plain text format for the purpose of searching and viewing. This new feature increases the accessibility of the system from various client platforms. This format guarantees problem-free and faithful display and printing. The PDF software is distributed free of charge and is widely accessible. Automatic transfer concerns the whole data repository (Documents, Study Materials, Final Theses Archives, Depository, My Web, Providers).

Thematic and full text search, graduate search and final theses search

The MU Information System offers a completely new generation of the application for full text and thematic search through a wide spectrum of data recorded in the system. The search mechanism also applies a sophisticated system of access rights. In addition to the option of an advanced setting of the expression being searched for it also allows for the search of parts of words, while at the same time disregarding Czech diacritics.

A special search application is designed for parameter-based searches among MU graduates together with searches among published final theses.

Other applications

- **Collection of accreditation data:** The application for collection of accreditation data is connected with completing CV's and other data required when application is being made for accreditation.
- **System for recording publications:** The new method of data collection for the Ministry of Education's list of information on research results brought about changes in the method of presentation of publications and compilation of data for periodic assessment of research plans.
- **Employee records:** Adaptations of data structures were started for increased compatibility between IS MU and external systems, together with work on a new method of recording individuals' permanent place of residence and contact addresses.

E-learning

Development of the e learning subsystem forms a substantial part of the development of IS MU. In 2006 the subsystem was extended with further options for the electronic teaching support:

Examination by means of scanned written tests

The option of simplifying the use of written examinations for large numbers of students by written test scanning was offered in 2006 and complements the other e learning agendas developed so far within IS MU. The teacher examines with the help of a set of prepared questions. The IS MU "mixes" an

original set for each student. The student fills out his or her answers on a special reply sheet, which is then scanned and automatically evaluated by the system. The scanned reply sheet is generally accessible within the IS MU system. The "marking" of tests by the scanning system takes about 30 minutes per 150 reply sheets.

The agenda may also be applied to some types of hand-written examinations.

Self-help agendas for students and teachers

- The self-help provider is a space within IS MU where students can provide each other with learning materials in the context of mutual support (lectures notes, study materials etc.).
- My web is a personal space for every user's personal web presentation. The space may be used for depositing files, sharing projects with other users or the development of working versions of e courses or other materials.

E-learning portal – Elportal

In 2006 a university-wide e learning portal was developed (<http://is.muni.cz/elportal/>), for the use of not only teachers and students of MU but also the eneral public. The Elportal includes several logical units, including teachers' experience, tips, how to approach students, new developments in IS MU, information about the e-technicians project and contacts for them, Step By Step procedures, help and options of IS MU, principles of e learning within IS MU, articles, FAQ, statistics and educational publications.

User support

In 2006, together with the development of e learning at MU, the requirements and suggestions of teachers for the application of electronic support for learning were analysed and the results of the analyses were taken into account for further development of the system. Teachers and projects were provided technical and user (consultation and training) support. Directly at the nine faculties of MU and in the Language Centre e technicians – members of the IS MU Development Team – were physically present to provide individual support to the teachers and to support the application of IS MU e learning tools in teaching.

Application for search of similar files

In 2006 Masaryk University became the first higher education institution in the Czech Republic to introduce within its study information system an electronic tool for the detection of plagiarism in university theses. The technology for seeking similar documents is the unique know-how of the IS MU Development Team, and detects copying not only in Master's and other final theses but also in homework, class presentations, seminar work and other electronic documents. The service is highly effective and rapid, thanks to the fact that the study information system in itself integrates not only the administrative part of studies but also a complete repository of documents (such as final theses, documents, study materials) and e learning agendas with a wide selection of files in the form of study materials by subject and previously



submitted student work. The texts to be compared may be written in Czech, English or Slovak.

New graphic design of IS MU for the general public

In 2006 a new design and rewritten content of the public web site of MU appeared. The new design includes modern elements purely applicable to the Internet. An attractive appearance, transparency, simple handling and interactive links complement the primary purpose of the web site – information in the study information system and information for the public.

The professional system of navigation “labels” offers quick orientation in information. The navigation “trail” always shows the users which part of the system they find themselves in. In addition to standard study information and e-application the web site also offers information about people at MU, MU alumni and university documents, all of the current year’s Bachelor’s, Master’s, advanced Master’s (“rigorozní”) and doctoral theses submitted at MU, an application for searching for information search and for information about e learning at MU (Elportal). The major advantage of the MU web site is its continual accessibility through the widest possible spectrum of search engines and rs and the quick downloading of the sites in each of them.

English version of the MU Information System

The project for the translation of IS MU into English is planned to extend over three years, with 2006 representing its second stage. At present 627 standard pages have been translated, including the applications

on Human Resources administration, Subjects, Student, Teacher, Discussion forum, Alumni, Workplaces etc. IS MU is a system that is being developed exceptionally rapidly and this creates great demand for the continual translation of newly developed or new versions of applications. The translation process is divided into two stages: programming the application and its preparation for translation and the work of the translator using a translation application.

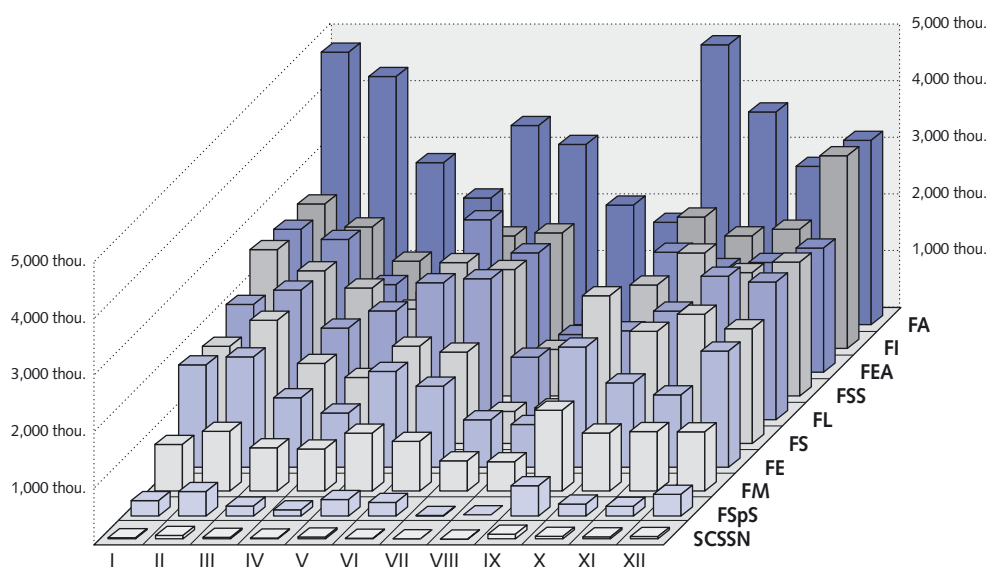
Support for the disabled

Several adaptations of IS MU were implemented on the basis of suggestions by disabled students, especially concerning the File Administrator, with the aim of increase the accessibility of the system for handicapped users. At the same time a new mode called “handicap” was introduced, personalized in IS MU for those with identified physical disabilities.

Outlook for 2007

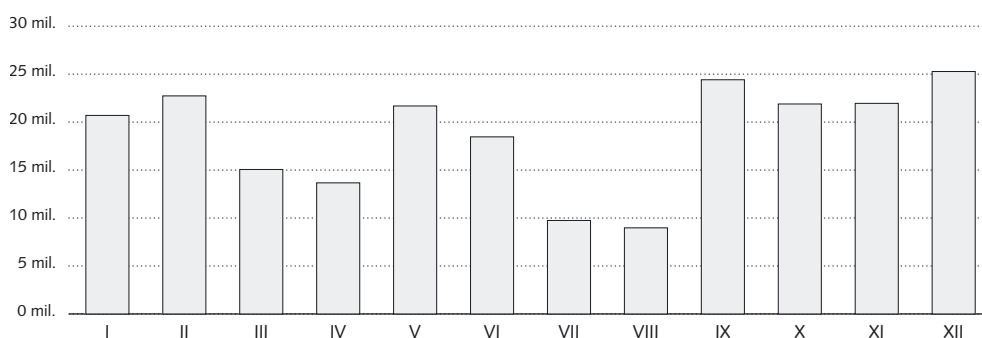
In the following period development will focus one learning and services of the e learning portal (Elportal), the design of IS MU, support for doctoral study records, full support for OpenOffice tools, implementation of the Business Centre, the provision of safe credit card payments and other application areas.

Graph 1 Use of MU Information System in 2006



Months of the year are shown horizontally, the number of opened sites at *is.muni.cz* in the individual months vertically. Only authorized accesses are shown, by individual faculty.

Graph 2 Total number of authorized accesses by month (2006)



Provision of information pursuant to Act No. 106/1999

Masaryk University provides information in compliance with Act No. 106/1999, the Freedom of Information Act (hereinafter “the Act”). As Masaryk University is a public higher education institution, the provision of information is one of its major (and in some areas most frequent) activities.

Most of the information provided was requested in person from MU employees in view of these individuals’ responsibility for areas in which the information was requested; therefore, in accordance with Section 13 of the Act, no record is made of these requests. The submission of written requests for information is subject to regulations drawn up in accordance with paragraph 5 (1) b) of the Act, which can be found at www.muni.cz/general/information-providing/mu-regulations. In the course of 2006 a total of 342 written requests for provision of information were filed.

In 11 cases the information requested did not fall within the competency of MU and this fact was communicated to those who had made the requests. In 247 cases the requests concerned information published by MU elsewhere and those who had made the requests were provided with the Internet addresses where the information in question could be found. In 84 cases the information that had been requested was provided to those who had submitted requests within the legal deadline. In the course of 2006 one appeal was filed against a decision to reject a request for information; it was settled positively without delay.

In the course of 2006 the courts did not deal with any cases concerning failure on the part of MU to provide information in compliance with the Act. In the period in question neither MU nor any of its employees were subject to any sanctions for violation of the Act.



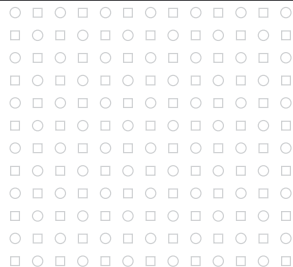


Photo Gallery



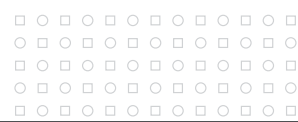
7th Masaryk University Ball, Besední dům, Brno, 27 January 2006



Presentation of studies at MU, BEST Education Fair in Vienna, March 2006



Official opening of the Blue Stage of construction of the University Campus at Bohunice, 3 April 2006

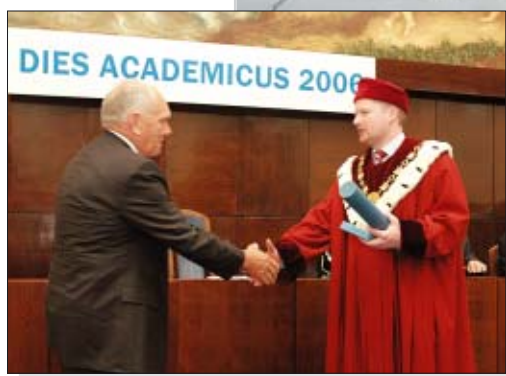




Launching of the Partnership in Education project for cooperation with secondary schools, National Theatre in Brno, the reconstructed Reduta theatre, 3 April 2006



Ceremonial launch of the solar power plant at the Faculty of Education, 13 April 2006



Dies academicus 2006, Aula of the Faculty of Law, 10 May 2006



Performance of Bedřich Smetana's *The Bartered Bride* on the occasion of Dies academicus 2006, National Theatre in Brno, 10 May 2006





Meeting of MU leadership with parliamentary Deputies and Senators, MU Rector's Office, 22 May 2006



Honorary doctorate ceremony
for Thomas Winkelbauer,
Aula of the Faculty of Law,
24 May 2006



Garden party, Botanical Garden
of the Faculty of Science, 5 September 2006



Official signing of agreement between IBM and MU,
Faculty of Informatics, 20 September 2006





EUA international conference, organized by the Brno Universities from 19–21 October 2006
Gala evening for conference participants in the chateau at Slavkov (Austerlitz), 20 October 2006



Concert to mark the beginning of the 2006/2007 academic year, Hradištan folklore ensemble, Semilaso, Brno, 25 September 2006



13th Gaudeamus Post-secondary Education and Life Long Learning Exhibition at the Brno Fair Grounds; presentation at the MU stand on how to apply for admission to studies at the university and informal talk with MU Vice-Deans, 2 November 2006



Open Day as part of the SCIENCE IN BRNO week; students of partner secondary schools, University Campus at Bohunice and FSS Atrium, 10 November 2006





List of abbreviations

University

MU	Masaryk University
RMU	Masaryk University Rector's Office
FL	Faculty of Law
FM	Faculty of Medicine
FS	Faculty of Science
FA	Faculty of Arts
FE	Faculty of Education
FEA	Faculty of Economics and Administration
FI	Faculty of Informatics
FSS	Faculty of Social Studies
FSpS	Faculty of Sports Studies

IBA	Institute of Biostatistics and Analyses
ICS	Institute of Computer Science
IIPS	International Institute of Political Science
LC	Language Centre
OIS	Office for International Studies
SCSSN	Support Centre for Students with Special Needs
TTO	Technology Transfer Office
UCT	University Centre in Telč
VPC	In-service Training Centre

EIS Magion Magion Economic Information System

ILBIT Integrated Laboratories for Biomedical Technologies

Inet MU MU Intranet server IRIS

IRIS Integrated Management and Information System at MU

IS BAPS Brno Academic Computer Network Information System

ISC International Student Club

IS MU Masaryk University Information System

SCB Supercomputer Centre Brno

U3V University of the Third Age

UCC University Computer Centre

General

Ba.	Bachelor's degree programme
CR	Czech Republic
ECTS	European Credit Transfer System
EIB	European Investment Bank
EUA	European University Association
FRVŠ	Higher Education Development Fund
HRD OP	Human Resources Development Operational Programme
I-c Ma.	long-cycle Master's degree programme
Ma.	Master's degree programme
PhD	Doctoral degree programme

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