

Faculty of Law

Annual Activity Report 1999

Dean:	Prof. JUDr. Josef Bejček, CSc.
Vice-deans:	Assoc. Prof. JUDr. Jan Svatoň, CSc. Assoc. Prof. JUDr. Naděžda Rozehnalová, CSc. Assoc. Prof. JUDr. Josef Fiala, CSc. Assoc. Prof. JUDr. Vladimír Týč, CSc.
Chairmen of the Academic Senate:	JUDr. Dana Hrabcová, Ph.D. (Jan 1st – March 31st) JUDr. Petr Mrkývka, Ph.D. (Apr 1st – Oct 10th) JUDr. Michaela Židlická, Dr. (deputy chair since Nov 11th)
Secretary:	Ing. Oldřich Zejda

In 1999, as in previous years, the quality of teaching rose steadily, and an emphasis was put on international co-operation.

Significant progress was made in the long-term conceptual reform of legal studies, which started three years ago. In the autumn of 1998, the final version of the new curriculum was finished. The trend towards stricter academic standards for final-year dissertations continued, and the quality of these increased significantly. Several new subjects were introduced in 1999, to accommodate the public demand. A number of subjects were taught by professors from foreign universities; the Jan Hus Educational Foundation is a constant source of help in the introduction of the more difficult of these.

Teaching in English continued, in the first subject integrating both the specialist and linguistic aspects of the discipline (international refugee law). The third year of the regular semester series of lectures delivered by professors at the faculties of law in Paris was completed successfully. The lectures were translated into Czech.

A detailed conception of the teaching of ten different subjects in foreign languages was developed and will be introduced next academic year.

The specialised three-year *Bc.* (bachelor's) course in real-estate law and the theory and practice of the preliminary criminal proceedings continued successfully.

In the process of teaching EU law, the Faculty gained the Jean Monnet Chair from the European Commission.

At the moment, there are 2,364 *Mgr.* (master's) students studying at the faculty (of which, 196 are foreign) and 173 *Bc.* students.

There are 99 students studying for doctor's degrees (two of whom are full-time students from abroad). The trend towards the substantial raising of academic standards in this form of study continued.

Scholarly research continued and eight grant projects were completed. Teachers at the Faculty published the results of their research in six monographs (published in this country only). Altogether 176 scholarly articles appeared, including those published in almanacs, of which 19 appeared in foreign journals.

Both faculty yearbooks (*Orbis Iuris Romani* and the *Yearbook of European Law*) continued to be published, as was the case with the legal scholarly journal. Teachers at the Faculty gained new qualifications through their scholarly research, and two of them defended their associate-professor dissertations successfully.

Three new research assistants completed their postgraduate courses and acquired Ph.D. degrees.

The theoretical results of scholarly work continue to be put into practice, for the most part through commissions from state institutions. Teachers at the Faculty also provide assistance in the legislative work done by constitutional legislative institutions. A number of public lectures were held, intended both for experts in the field and the general public. Several professors of the Faculty took part in the Czech-French Course in European Administration, organized by the University of Rennes.

Last year, 24 textbooks were published, albeit in this country only. Some textbooks written by teachers at the Faculty were published in second revised and enlarged editions.

The Faculty of Law of Masaryk University held seven scholarly conferences. Its teachers took part in 31 conferences and seminars, of which 23 took place abroad.

Foreign contacts were further developed, both on scholarly and pedagogical levels. As every year, a group of teachers from John Marshall Law School in Chicago visited, giving lectures and taking part in other events. A discussion with students was also part of this visit.

The Faculty played host to 37 foreign visitors, most of whom delivered a lecture during their visit. New contacts were established, namely with the Faculty of Law of Aix-Marseille (France), and the contacts with Slovak faculties of law were gradually being renewed.

Teachers of the Faculty took part in 47 study trips abroad. The number of students who either took short courses or stayed for longer periods of time at foreign universities fell somewhat (to 22). The Faculty welcomed its first foreign student from the SOCRATES programme. Further increase is expected next year when instruction in foreign languages will be introduced.

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the re-establishing and the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Faculty of Law of Masaryk University, an international conference entitled *The Teaching of Law in the 21st Century* was held. On this occasion, forty-nine teachers of the Faculty and other leading figures from outside the Faculty were awarded a memorial medal.