

Conclusions of the first inaugural meeting of the International Board

On May 2, 2024, took place the first inaugural meeting of the International Board of the Faculty of Education, University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice. At the meeting, the Dean and the members of the faculty management attending the meeting presented to the IB members the structure of the Faculty of Education, its focus, mission and vision, history, study programmes of all three degrees and academic staff.

The IB members present were interested in the achievements and problems of the faculty, but especially in its immediate and medium-term development initiatives. From the presentations and discussions, it was clear that the faculty enjoys prestige among other pedagogical faculties in the Czech Republic and has ambitions to further develop its position. A high priority of the Faculty is to increase its research and publication activities, achieving the level of other top European and world institutions for the preparation of future teachers for pre-primary, primary and lower secondary levels of education.

This inaugural meeting was primarily for informative purposes, to introduce IB members to the faculty, its structure and mission. Presentations by the Dean and other members of the faculty leadership were followed by a rich discussion. The following conclusions emerged.

Results, conclusions, and recommendations of the inaugural meeting

Members of the IAB

- were introduced to the profile and vision of the faculty, e.g. also to the Annual Report of the Faculty for 2022, thus fulfilling the main objective of this first, inaugural meeting,
- express their goodwill to use the experience they have from their departments and their further assignments at different foreign institutions for the benefit of further development of the Faculty,
- welcome the development plans of the faculty leadership, with emphasis on supporting the modern preparation of future teachers who will be active in their schools in the 30s, 40s and 50s of the 21st century. We support the further development of curricula, e.g. also in line with the recommendations of the OECD Learning Framework 2030, fulfilment of the objectives of DigCompEdu – Digital Competence Framework for Educators of European Commission, and other ambitious frameworks,
- support the emphasis on intensifying the research activities of creative faculty members, with the aim of publishing in prestigious international journals,
- encourage, to the extent possible, various forms of student involvement in research initiatives, small and large projects, etc. in order to strengthen their self-perception as modern, reflective teachers for the future,
- are aware that in implementing development initiatives, the faculty leadership must proceed sensitively, with realistic plans and priorities that recognise and respect the development potential of the faculty's academic community.

On the basis of the discussions that took place during the meeting, these results and recommendations were recorded by Ivan Kalaš, Comenius University, Bratislava.

České Budějovice
May 5, 2024