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Pursuant to article 67. of The State University of Novi Pazar Statute, from the session held on 19/11/2014 The SUNP Senate has adopted the following:

INTERNATIONALIZATION STRATEGY OF THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NOVI PAZAR (2014-2019)

1. INTRODUCTION

The State University of Novi Pazar is the first integrated and officially accredited university in Serbia, established in 2006. The original department model of organization of the teaching process and dynamic study programs which currently have 4,000 students, are aligned with the conditions of Bologna declaration, and also offer a possibility of making new and modern profiles of the university educated experts who are significant for the regional development, but also important for profiles which are competitive on the knowledge market in the country and abroad. Research work at our University is being performed with basic, applicable and development research work which enables the staff to perform the work in all research fields and at all departments. Strategic attitude of the University is to be permanently aligned with the goals and strategies of university education of the Republic of Serbia. The region contains 15 municipalities with over 500,000 citizens, and the youth potential which is the youngest in Europe, represents a valuable resource and a motif to give this region education of the best quality.

2. INTERNATIONALIZATION PROCESS

From its foundation until today the University has been cooperating with over 40 universities in the country and abroad. In its aspiration to use its potentials and to use it as much as it can in the academic sky of Europe and the world, cooperation with various institutions, eminent teaching staff from the country and abroad has been made, and this has undoubtedly contributed to having the University become known for being an open and recognizable institution ready for any kind of cooperation in order to enhance the quality of teaching and teaching process.

Also, the University participates in TEMPUS, CEEPUS, ERASMUS/MUNDUS and other programs, international calls for allocation of funds for scientific research and development of the educational process, acquisition of material resources for the improvement of university teaching, makes regular contacts and cooperation with organizations for student exchange so that the students could participate in summer and professional training, etc. Until now 30 of our students have successfully completed their stay in international universities and have had ample experience.

2.1. Office for control of quality and the teaching process

In order to monitor all project activities more actively, the Office for control of quality and international cooperation was established a few years ago, and it provides constant record of implemented activities within certain projects, takes care of monitoring the activities within international cooperation and international projects which are being implemented at the University.

2.2. Office for career development and tracking of graduates (alumni) and the question of international cooperation and student mobility

Key role of the office is to provide the students of the State University of Novi Pazar with adequate support in acquiring those knowledge and skills which shall be the most useful for them during the employment process and to help them in acquiring knowledge on the business world, to prepare the students for successful transfer to the next level of career development upon graduation. The role of the office is to provide relevant information to students so they could use potential possibilities of employment by directly contacting employers and any other information that can help them in their employment.

In order to provide an efficient system of support to students and graduates in developing knowledge and skills which shall be beneficial when looking for a job or continuing education, this office is obliged to perform the following tasks:

- to enable access to students to the freshest information on current available working posts, professions and skills that the employers are looking for,
- to provide students with information and possibilities of further education and possible grants in the country and abroad
- to work on developing abilities, knowledge and skills which are key to employment process of students and graduates;
- to connect student and graduate community with the business world community.

2.3. Research center

The research center is formed with the aim of efficient implementation of research projects. The center provides support and helps in forming of research projects, monitors its implementation, provides material and technical support to the researchers in the department laboratories.

Research work of teachers and associates is being performed by means of their engagement in the research projects, as well as by individual research, by publication of their work in reference journals, participation in domestic and international conferences, work on their master and doctoral dissertations. In order to become part of the European educational and research space within the Strategy of Europe 2020, it is necessary to achieve progress within the following priority areas of innovation, for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, with the aim of improving frame conditions and approaches for financing of research and innovations, to be able to secure possibilities of transforming innovative ideas into products and services.

3. PROGRAMS OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND WORKING GUIDELINES

The State University of Novi Pazar participates actively in international projects TEMPUS. Teachers, associates and students participate in international conventions and professional conferences. Research work shall be significantly enlarged within international projects of regional and European character. The University's management shall support and stimulate participation of its employees in the aforementioned projects in accordance with its financial, human and other resources at its disposal. Current international university cooperation has given positive results in the mobility of students and professors, high academic standards, and in development of ideas in terms of achieving common plans and programs for easier exchange.

International cooperation at the State University of Novi Pazar from **2014-2019** is being realized through:

- Training of its associates in eminent scientific, university and economic institutions;
- Even better connection with the European universities, with the aim of intense presence and approach to European research funds, forming of projects proposals and student exchange (IPA, ERAZMUS),
- Preparation and participation in projects FP (Framework Program).
- Participation in international congresses, symposiums, workshops, in order to present achieved results, connect with experts and broaden the circle of potential associates.
- Connection via projects COST (Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research) projects, CARDS (Community Assistance for Reconstruction, Development and Stabilization).

4. KEY GOALS AND PRIORITY AREAS OF WORK

The internationalization of the university cannot be a goal on its own, but a long-term mean to provide a defined and clear place of the State University of Novi Pazar in the world's academic space. Strategic approach of the University for a permanent alignment of its work with the European goals and the strategy of development of Serbia, means that the following **key goals** are being implemented:

1. More active involvement of the University in the field of international cooperation in the next five years;
2. Secure appropriate financial support for internationalization;
3. Form study programs of all levels base on international standards and norms, as well as to organize joint study programs;
4. Involvement of a greater number of teachers and associates in the research work through process of internationalization by means of staff exchange;
5. Promoting mobility of students more through:
 - a) possibility of achieving part of a study program abroad;
 - b) increasing the number of guest professors;
 - c) including administration and students who were already on exchange so they could help those students who are interested in participating.

5. TASKS

Tasks of the University management shall be directed to develop institutionalized framework for the process of internationalization. Beside that it is necessary to have a better record of evaluation of potential institution ready for cooperation. To get closer to standards necessary for more active participation in internationalization, it is necessary to:

- a) develop curriculum in English;
- b) include domestic and foreign professors in the process of teaching in English;
- c) create a climate for studying and accepting foreign students introducing visas, providing places in the multifunctional University facility for accommodation, dealing of health issues, introducing the system of record of foreign students through the work of the office for career development and tracking of graduates and question of cooperation and student mobility);
- d) obtain a degree in English which shall be acknowledged in the world and provide help in further employment.
- e) have five to ten percent of foreign students in the next five years.

6. CONCLUSION

The internationalization strategy of the State University of Novi Pazar shows readiness to internationalize and develop cooperation with current and future partners, in order to come closer to the set goals and tasks of the strategy.

The strategy shall be enforced upon being adopted by the Senate and shall be available at the University's website.


President of the Senate

Prof. Miladin Kostic, PhD