

Faculty of Economics and Management of the Czech University of Agriculture Prague

The development of agricultural university education is connected with academic traditions of the Czech Lands and modern (post-war) history. An establishment of the Faculty of Economics and Management in 1952, its development and development of university education system are basic moments which determine very competitive position of the Faculty in the present transformation (post-transformation) period from centrally planned economies to the market economy.

In connection with sharp changes in economic and social life after 1989 principal changes took place in the field of teaching programmes, research and scientific activities, organization and management of the Faculty, personnel structure, orientation of foreign contacts, etc. The

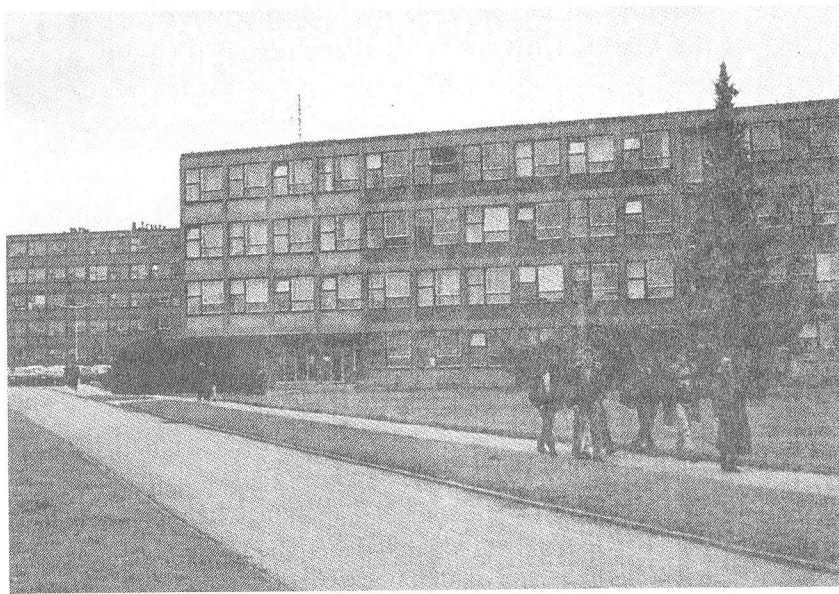
total result of this difficult transformation period is a marked support of the position of the Faculty of Economics and Management within creation of new structure of the Czech University of Agriculture in Prague. It is a great progress in fulfilling the strategic and development targets of the Czech University of Agriculture and the Faculty of Economics and Management.

Strategic targets of the Faculty are clearly connected with support of the leading position and competitive advantage of the Faculty in Prague within the Czech Republic and along with it purposeful development of equivalent partner relations with European and overseas universities.

Opportunist climate, purposeful information activity and preparedness of the Faculty to exploit existing opportunities reflected totally in repeating, more than double increase of the number of recorded applicants to the study at the Faculty in 1995 compared with the preceding year. Out of more than 3 200 applicants to the studies roughly 800 students (who enrolled to all



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subjects and specializations of the Faculty) were accepted after demanding entrance examination.

There are much more applicants to study at the Faculty of Economics and Management, Czech University of Agriculture, Prague, that can be accepted due to room, source and personnel reasons of the Faculty. This is associated with competitiveness of our graduates on the labour market. Successful assertion of graduates is doubtless connected with materialization of new substitute teaching programmes directed to the whole sphere of agrobusiness or whole economics.

Strategic targets of the development are fulfilled by basic academic activities. These include pedagogical, research and foreign activities.

Pedagogical activities

Pedagogical activity plays a decisive role in preparation of competitive experts on the labour market for extended sphere of agrobusiness in the sector of economy, management, marketing, commerce, finance, law, informatics, etc. for all types of transforming enterprises, organizations and institutions in basic industries, industry, services, state administration, system of education, research, etc.

Basic idea of pedagogical sphere of activity of the Faculty can be done on the basis of the number of teachers (115) and students, whose number exceeded 2 000 and is ever greater. Within the Faculty there is also parallel form of the studies: bachelor's (1 line), two engineering (2 lines) and doctoral (2 lines). Teaching programmes of different lines enable greater number of options. Within internationalization of programmes and building of the so-called small lines with special training in existing positive experience in intensive studies of languages with special orientation in English, German and French.

Research and Scientific Activities

Research and scientific activity means a basic prerequisite for the development of the scientific disciplines and updating of the system of teaching, education of scientific personalities and total image of the Faculty. There is another possibility, not insignificant, to acquire additional financial sources from CR and abroad.

The development of research based on external and internal grants, creation of inter-departmental research teams, further extension of research cooperation with foreign partners are among priorities in this sphere.

Organization of international scientific conference "Agrarian Prospects" is one of annual activities of the Faculty. In 1995 the conference was devoted to the problems of agrarian sector within European integration. About 40 foreign guests from 10 countries participated in this 4th conference.

Foreign contacts

Foreign contacts, based on cooperation with foreign universities or other institutions, which are indispensable for the development in pedagogical and research sphere, were subject to significant changes. Accomplishment of foreign contacts is more and more based on support of equivalent partner forms of cooperation. The core of this activity consists in intensification of traditional contacts with foreign partners (joint projects with universities in Germany, Great Britain, France, the Netherlands, Austria, Switzerland, Ireland, USA, etc.) and in creation of conditions for continuation of mutually beneficial cooperation after completing the concrete projects (e.g. series of Tempus projects). At the same time a greater attention is paid to establishment of new contacts as a basis for future agreements and projects (Poland, the Ukraine, Lithuania, Slovenia, etc.).

The Faculty of Economics and Management organizes "Summer School" for students of the Ohio State University who thus acquire credit points within

their studies. In 1996 the fifth year of "Summer School" will be opened to students of the University of Missouri.

The Faculty has prepared a broad offer of teaching modules for foreign students (in English) which will be carried out gradually.

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