

In accordance with Section 36(2) of Act No.111/1998 Coll., on Higher Education and on Amendments and Supplements to Other Acts (the Higher Education Act), the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports registered on 28 March 2017 the Statutes of the Silesian University in Opava under No. MSMT-7574/2017.

The amendments to the Statutes of the Silesian University in Opava from 28 March 2017 were registered by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports pursuant to Section 36(2) of the Higher Education on 31 October 2019 under No. MSMT-34506/2019-3, on 18 December 2019 under No. MSMT-40512/2019-1, on 19 March 2021 under No. MSMT-7776/2021-2, on 19 March 2021 under No. MSMT-7776/2021-3 and on 19 September 2022 under No. MSMT-25835/2022-2.



VI.

Full text of the Statutes of the Silesian University in Opava dated 19 September 2022

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PART ONE

BASIC PROVISIONS

Article 1

Introductory provisions

- 1) The Silesian University in Opava (hereinafter referred to as “the University”) is recognized as a higher education institution pursuant to Act No.111/1998 Coll., on Higher Education and on Amendments and Supplements to Other Acts (the Higher Education Act), as amended (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”).
- 2) The University acts as the legal successor of the Silesian University, which was established on 28 September 1991 by Act No. 314/1991 Coll. of the Czech National Council on the establishment of the Silesian University, the University of South Bohemia, the University of West Bohemia, the Jan Evangelista Purkyně University and the University of Ostrava on 9 July 1991. The mission of the University is outlined in Article 1 of the Act.
- 3) The official name of the university is “Slezská univerzita v Opavě”, translated into English as “the Silesian University in Opava”.
- 4) The seat of the University is at Na Rybníčku 626/1, 746 01 Opava.
- 5) The University serves as a hub of scholarly pursuits, independent knowledge and creative activities. It is dedicated to promoting the independent and free cultivation and advancement of sciences and arts through research, teaching and academic study.

Article 2

Legal status of the University

- 1) The University holds the status of a legal entity.
- 2) The University is classified as a research university.
- 3) The University operates as a public university.

Article 3

The academic community of the University

- 1) The academic staff and students of the University form the academic community of the University.
- 2) Only the Rector or the Chair of the Academic Senate of the University has the right to convene an assembly of the academic community.

Article 4

Academic freedoms and rights

Academic freedoms and rights are guaranteed at the University in accordance with Section 4 of the Act.

P A R T T W O

THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS PARTS

TITLE I

THE BODIES OF THE UNIVERSITY

Article 5

The self-governing academic bodies of the University comprise the bodies referred to in Sections 7(1) and 7(2) of the Act.

Article 6

Academic Senate of the University

- 1) The legal status of the Academic Senate of the University (hereinafter referred to as “the Senate”) is regulated in Sections 8 and 9 of the Act.
- 2) The Senate is composed of two chambers – the Academic Staff Chamber and the Student Chamber.
- 3) Members of the Senate are elected by the academic community of the University so that each faculty is represented by four members of the Academic Staff Chamber and three members of the Student Chamber.
- 4) Each higher education institution referred to in Section 22(1)(b) of the Act and students of study programmes jointly implemented by the University and the higher education institution shall be represented by one member of the Academic Staff Chamber and one member of the Student Chamber.
- 5) Membership in the Senate is incompatible with the office of Rector, Vice-Rector, Bursar, Dean, Vice-Dean, Secretary of the faculty and Director of a higher university institution.

- 6) The term of office of the Senate members is three years.
- 7) Senate elections follow the Senate Election Rules, and the activities of the Senate and its bodies are governed by the Rules of Procedure of the Senate.

Article 7

Rector

- 1) The legal status of the Rector is defined by law, these Statutes and the internal regulations of the University.
- 2) The Rector's advisory body is the Rector's Collegium (hereinafter referred to as "the Collegium"). It consists of the Vice-Rectors, the Bursar, the Chair of the Senate, the Deans and the Director of the higher education institution as permanent members. Additionally, the Rector may appoint other members at their discretion. The Rector shall convene the Collegium as needed.
- 3) The Rector shall establish other advisory bodies as needed by internal regulation, defining their terms of reference, meeting procedures and methods of deliberations.

Article 8

Vice-Rectors

- 1) The legal status of Vice-Rectors is determined by Section 10(4) of the Act, these Statutes and the internal regulations of the University.
- 2) Vice-rectors are accountable to the Rector and responsible for their activities in their assigned areas. Their number and area of authority shall be determined by the Rector.
- 3) The duties of Vice-Rectors and their responsibilities are defined in the Organizational Regulations of the Silesian University in Opava. The Rector may assign specific authority to individual Vice-Rectors in their designated areas.
- 4) The Rector shall designate which Vice-Rector will fully represent them in their absence.

Article 9

Scientific Council of the University

- 1) The legal status of the Scientific Council of the University (hereinafter referred to as "the Scientific Council") is determined by Sections 11 and 12 of the Act, these Statutes and the internal regulations of the University.
- 2) The authority of the Scientific Council referred to in Section 12(1)(b) and (c) of the Act are entrusted to the Internal Evaluation Board of the University (hereinafter referred to as "the Internal Evaluation Board").
- 3) The Scientific Council shall conduct its activities in accordance with the law and provide its opinions on the following matters:
 - a) awarding honorary doctorates of the University,

- b) awarding the University's gold medal.
- 4) The Scientific Council shall be guided in its deliberations by the Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Council.

Article 10

Internal Evaluation Board of the University

- 1) The legal status of the Internal Evaluation Board is determined by Section 12a of the Act, these Statutes and the internal regulations of the University.
- 2) In addition to the matters listed in Section 12a(4)(a) to (d) of the Act, the responsibilities of the Internal Evaluation Board include:
 - a) granting consent to implement study programmes submitted by the Rector based on the proposal of a faculty or a higher education institution within the scope of institutional accreditation,
 - b) approving the plan to submit an application for accreditation, extension of accreditation or extension of the period of validity of accreditation of study programmes submitted by the Rector based on proposals of the scientific board of the relevant faculty; in cases where study programmes are not conducted at a faculty, the approval is based on the proposal of the scientific board of the relevant higher education institution and the scientific board of the University,
 - (c) approving remedial measures for deficiencies in the implementation of study programmes approved under (a), which include:
 - 1. inviting the relevant faculty or higher education institution to address the situation within a reasonable period of time,
 - 2. prohibiting the acceptance of new applicants to the study programme,
 - 3. withdrawing the consent under (a); the proposal for approval of this remedy can only be made by the Rector,
 - (d) managing the preparation of an application for institutional accreditation or the extension of institutional accreditation,
 - e) ensuring compliance with relevant legal regulations and internal regulations of the University in the implementation of study programmes.
- 3) The Internal Evaluation Board shall be guided in its deliberations by the Rules of Procedure for Internal Evaluation.

Article 11

Disciplinary Committee

- 1) The legal status of the University Disciplinary Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the Disciplinary Committee") is defined in Section 13 of the Act.
- 2) Members of the Disciplinary Committee serve a two-year term of office.

- 3) The Disciplinary Committee conducts its deliberations in accordance with the law and the Disciplinary Regulations for Students.

Article 12

Board of Trustees of the University

- 1) The legal status of the Board of Trustees of the University (hereinafter referred to as “the Board of Trustees”) is defined in Sections 14 and 15 of the Act.
- 2) The members of the Board of Trustees are appointed and dismissed by the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports (hereinafter referred to as “the Minister”) after consultation with the Rector.
- 3) The Board of Trustees consists of fifteen members.
- 4) The election of the Chair, Vice-Chairs and procedures of the Board of Trustees are regulated by the Statutes of the Board approved by the Minister.

Article 13

The Bursar

- 1) The legal status of the Bursar is defined in Section 16 of the Act, in these Statutes and in the internal regulations of the University.
- 2) The Bursar is responsible for the overall management, administration of property and internal administration of the University. Additionally, the Bursar represents the University in commercial, economic, administrative and civil legal matters as determined by the Rector.
- 3) The Bursar methodically manages the units of the University in matters referred to in paragraph 2.
- 4) The Bursar is appointed and dismissed by the Rector. The Bursar is directly subordinate to the Rector and is accountable to them for their activities.

TITLE II

ONLINE COLLECTIVE MEETINGS

Article 13a

- 1) In justified cases, the collective bodies or units of the University may conduct deliberations and vote through teleconference or videoconference, i.e. utilizing technical means that allow real-time online communication (hereinafter referred to as “online meeting”) or through a combination of online and face-to-face meeting (hereinafter referred to as “hybrid meeting”). The decision on whether to hold an online or hybrid meeting shall be taken by the Head of the collective body of the University or its unit.

- 2) For online or hybrid meetings of the collective body, any technical tool that allows the identification of the members of the collective body may be utilized to ensure the participation and voting of the relevant member. Where a secret vote is required, this must be ensured.
- 3) A recording/the minutes of the online or hybrid meeting shall be made in the same way as for an offline meeting. The reasons for holding the online or hybrid meeting shall be stated in the recording/minutes of the meeting.
- 4) For the purposes of this Article, the collective bodies of the University and the units shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a) Academic Senate of the University
 - b) Scientific Council of the University
 - c) Internal Evaluation Board of the University
 - d) Disciplinary Committee of the University
 - e) Habilitation Committee
 - f) Committee for the Appointment of Professors
 - g) Examination Committee established according to the Rigorosum Regulations
 - h) Selection Committee established in accordance with the Admissions Regulations at the University,
 - i) Selection Board established in accordance with the Selection Procedure Regulations
 - j) Academic Senate of the Faculty
 - k) Scientific Council of the Faculty
 - l) Disciplinary Committee of the Faculty
 - m) Central Election Committee
 - n) Sub-Electoral Committee
 - o) Ethics Committee.
- 5) This Article introduces the option of online or hybrid meetings for collective bodies without altering the existing provisions of the rules of procedure and other internal rules concerning meetings, voting or per rollam voting.

TITLE III

MANAGEMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

Article 14

Property of the University

- 1) The University has the authority to assign its property to the care of its constituent parts, as decided by the Rector. The Dean is responsible to the Rector for the efficient utilization and management of the property entrusted to the faculty. Similarly, the Director or Head of each unit is accountable to the Rector for the efficient use and management of the property assigned to their respective units within the University.
- 2) The units of the University are obligated to use the entrusted property for fulfilling tasks related to educational and creative activities. Additionally, they may utilize the property for supplementary activities in accordance with the law, these Statutes, the internal regulations of the University, and the internal standards set by the University.

Article 15

Management of the University

- 1) The University primarily manages the financial resources obtained pursuant to Section 18(2) of the Act.
- 2) The management of the University follows the Management and Accounting Rules at the University.
- 3) The University makes a budget for the calendar year, ensuring that the budget is not planned with a deficit.
- 4) The University manages the allocated funds based on the budget approved by the Senate and the Board of Trustees.
- 5) If the Senate does not approve the budget submitted by the Rector, the Rector shall submit a new proposal to the Senate within 30 days. The Rector shall forward the budget approved by the Senate to the Board of Trustees within 30 days of the date of publication of the minutes. If the Board of Trustees does not approve the budget, the next step in the procedure shall be in accordance with Article 14(5) of the Act.
- 6) The units of the University make a balanced budget to manage the allocated funds according to their own cost and revenue plan (sub-budget).
- 7) The Dean is accountable to the Rector for the efficient use of the financial resources of the faculty.
- 8) The Director or Head of the unit is responsible to the Rector for the efficient use of the funds of other units of the University.
- 9) The Bursar is accountable to the Rector for the efficient use of the rectorate's funds.
- 10) The University is not permitted to assume liability for monetary debts of others or establish rights of lien on real estate. Additionally, the University is not allowed to become a partner in a public partnership or a general partner in a limited partnership. Furthermore, the University shall not

contribute to a partnership or cooperative with immovable property acquired by public universities from the ownership of the State, a grant provided under Section 18(3) of the Act, or a subsidy granted under Section 18(4) of the Act. The conditions for monetary and non-monetary contributions to legal entities are defined in the Management and Accounting Rules at the University.

TITLE IV

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY

Article 16

Units of the University

- 1) The legal status of the units of the University is regulated by law.
- 2) The University comprises the following faculties:
 - a) Faculty of Philosophy and Science in Opava,
 - b) School of Business Administration in Karviná,
 - c) Faculty of Public Policies in Opava.
- 3) The University includes the following higher education institutions:
 - a) Mathematical Institute in Opava
 - b) Institute of Physics in Opava.
- 4) The following workplaces (hereinafter referred to as “workplaces”) are part of the University pursuant to Section 22(1)(c) of the Act:
 - a) University Library of Silesian University,
 - b) Information Technology Centre.
- 5) Pursuant to Section 22(1)(d) of the Act, the University comprises a special purpose facility (hereinafter referred to as “special purpose facility”): The Choir of the Silesian University in Opava.
- 6) The Rector’s Office serves as the administrative unit of the University.

Article 17

Faculty

- 1) The legal status of the faculty, along with the rights of the faculty and its bodies, is regulated pursuant to Sections 23 to 33 of the Act.
- 2) The bodies of the faculty shall also have the right, unless otherwise specified by law, to make decisions or take action on behalf of the University to the full extent in matters referred to in Sections 24(2)(a) to (d) of the Act.

- 3) The Dean of the faculty holds the authority to decide on the rights and obligations of students enrolled in study programmes at the faculty in matters specified in Section 68(1) of the Act.

Article 18

Higher education institution

- 1) The legal status of a higher education institution is determined in Section 34 of the Act.
- 2) The term of office of the Director of a higher education institution is four years. The same individual may serve as Director for a maximum of two consecutive terms.
- 3) The Director of the higher education institution is authorized to perform all legal acts in accordance with the law and represent the University to third parties to the extent determined by the Rector.

Article 19

Workplace

- 1) The establishment, merger, amalgamation or closure of a workplace is regulated in Section 9(1)(a) of the Act.
- 2) The Head of the workplace is accountable for their activities to the Rector.
- 3) The Head of the workplace is authorized to perform all legal acts in accordance with the law and represent the University to third parties to the extent determined by the Rector.

Article 20

Special purpose facilities

- 1) The establishment, merger, amalgamation, division or dissolution of a special purpose facility is regulated in Section 9(1)(a) of the Act.
- 2) The Head of the special purpose facility is the Head of the institution, who is accountable for their activities to the Rector.

TITLE V

INTERNAL REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Article 21

Internal regulations

The internal regulations of the University are the internal regulations specified in Section 17(1)(a) to (j) of the Act. Pursuant to Section 17(1)(k) of the Act, the following regulations shall be included:

- a) Management and Accounting Rules at the University,
- b) Lifelong Learning Regulations at the University,

- c) Theses Publication Guidelines at the University,
- d) Rules for the Utilization of the Social Fund at the University,
- e) Admissions Regulations at the University,
- f) Study and Examination Regulations for students of doctoral study programmes at the University in collaboration with a higher education institution,
- g) Rules of Procedure for the Internal Evaluation at the University,
- h) Regulations for Habilitation and Appointment as Professor at the University,
- i) Rigorosum Regulations at the University.

Article 22

Internal standards

- 1) Along with internal standards of faculties, internal standards that are not subject to registration by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (hereinafter referred to as “the Ministry”) include also:
 - a) Organizational Regulations, Staff Regulations and Career Regulations of the University and its units
 - b) decisions – one-off or time-limited internal standards concerning operational, organizational or administrative matters, tasks or regulations,
 - c) directives – long-term standards of a broader scope concerning in particular methodological and organizational matters, the establishment of working procedures, responsibilities, authority, duties, etc,
 - d) methodological guidelines – long-term standards of a narrower scope concerning the methodological procedures and measures aimed at specific fields of activity.
- 2) Internal standards are issued by the Rector, the Bursar, the Dean of the faculty and the Director of a higher education institution within the scope of their authority defined by law and the Statutes. The form of issuing internal standards and their publication is determined by the internal standards of the Rector.

PART THREE

STUDYING AT THE UNIVERSITY

Article 23

Study programme

- 1) Higher education is obtained at the university by attending an accredited study programme according to a curriculum in a specified form of study.

- 2) The University publishes on its public website a comprehensive list of accredited study programmes it offers. The list includes details such as the programme's type and profile, study form and standard duration and information about accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Additionally, if a study programme is accredited by a specific faculty, it is clearly indicated.

Article 24

Framework requirements for admission to study and method of application

- 1) The requirements for admission to study in bachelor's, master's and doctoral programmes are generally defined in Sections 48 to 50 of the Act and in the Admissions Regulations.
- 2) The applicants' knowledge, abilities or aptitudes for study are typically assessed by means of an entrance examination.
- 3) If the entrance examination consists of more than one part, the order of the parts must be specified. Participation in each part is contingent upon fulfilling the requirements of the preceding part.
- 4) Under certain circumstances and in accordance with published admission requirements, the entrance examination may be waived for applicants based on their previous academic achievements.
- 5) The admission test may be modified in an individual manner for applicants with specific needs (in particular, severe physical or sensory disabilities, severe chronic or psychiatric illnesses, or specific learning disabilities) based on a written application which includes a medical opinion issued by a qualified provider pursuant to Section 49(1) of the Act, or by a specialist. Individual adjustments must be based on the applicant's disability, and the determination of their scope and content is entirely within the authority of the individual responsible for admitting students to study programmes.
- 6) The application for studies shall be submitted in electronic form via the e-application form in the study information system. The application should be submitted to the university or its unit responsible for implementing the relevant study programme.

Article 25

Delivery of documents

- 1) If the student has a data box, they will receive mail from the University through the public data network to the data box address provided, in accordance with Section 63(3)(b) of the Act.
- 2) Documents sent via the public data network are considered delivered when the authorized person logs in to the data box. If the authorized person does not log in within ten days after the documents were placed in the data box, the delivery is considered valid.
- 3) If delivery through the public data network (data box) is not possible, the documents will be sent through postal service providers.
- 4) Students and applicants will receive any documents from the University via registered mail to the delivery address specified by the student or applicant. For addressees with permanent residence outside the Czech Republic, the mail will be sent to their permanent residence address.

- 5) If the addressee does not receive the mail, it will be kept by the postal service provider. The delivery date will be considered the 10th day after the deposit, excluding the day of the deposit.
- 6) If the mail is returned to the University as undeliverable due to an unknown addressee, the document will be posted on the official notice board of the University for 15 days. The 15th day after the posting will be considered the date of delivery. The University is not obligated to appoint a guardian for this notice according to Section 69a(2) of the Act.
- 7) Decisions related to certain matters mentioned in Section 68(1)(a), (b), and (d) of the Act, granting a student's request, and decisions specified in Section 68(1)(e) of the Act will be delivered through the University's electronic information system. The notification date for such cases will be the day following the date on which the decision is made available to the student in the electronic information system.
- 8) The student may also receive an invitation to comment on documents through the University's electronic information system.
- 9) If the application for admission to study is accepted in accordance with Section 50 of the Act, the decision on admission will be delivered via the University's electronic information system if the applicant has previously agreed to this method of delivery on the application form. The notification date will be the day after the decision is made available to the applicant in the electronic information system.
- 10) The University may offer the option of personal collection of correspondence in the form of a decision by prior arrangement with the relevant student officer.
- 11) The correspondence received in person will be acknowledged with a statement of receipt, and the documents will be considered delivered at that moment.
- 12) All other legal relations concerning document delivery between the University and students or applicants will be governed by specific provisions, including Section 69a of the Act and Section 19 et seq. of Act No. 500/2004 Coll., the Administrative Code, as amended.

Article 26

Study fees

- 1) Admission fees are determined by the Rector for the relevant academic year as follows:
 - a) no fee shall be charged for acts related to the admission procedure to the same or similar study programme in the event of termination of accreditation of the study programme pursuant to Section 80(5) of the Act,
 - b) in all other cases, the fee shall not exceed 20% of the base amount set by the Ministry pursuant to Section 58(2) of the Act (rounded down to the nearest ten crowns).
- 2) The study fee for a student studying beyond the standard period of study, extended by one year in a bachelor's or master's programme as specified in Section 58(3) of the Act, shall be three times the base amount set by the Ministry for each additional six months of study. This period of study also includes any previous studies completed in bachelor's and master's programmes, except for those completed in accordance with Section 45(3) or 46(3) of the Act, unless the previous study was a previous study after which the student duly completed a study programme of the same type.

Periods during which the student studied in such programmes, or concurrently in such programmes and the current study programme, shall be counted only once in the total period of study. However, the recognized period of parenthood shall be deducted first from the total period of study calculated under this paragraph.

- 3) The study fees for study programmes conducted in a foreign language pursuant to Section 58(4) of the Act for a particular unit of the University shall be determined by the Head of the relevant unit, taking into consideration the economic demands of the study, the costs of ensuring its quality, administration and the current situation in a similar field of education.
- 4) The University shall determine and publish the fees associated with studies for the upcoming academic year in the public section of its website no later than on the last day of the deadline for submitting applications for studies.
- 5) Fees associated with the study can only be paid by cashless payment.
- 6) The due date for payment of study fees is set as follows:
 - a) the admission fee must be paid by the deadline set by the relevant unit for submitting the admission application,
 - b) the study fee specified in Section 58(3) of the Act must be paid within 90 days from the date of receiving the fee assessment or 90 days from receiving the decision on an appeal against the fee assessment (an appeal against the fee assessment suspends the payment obligation),
 - c) the study fee specified in Section 58(4) of the Act must be paid within 30 days from receiving the decision on the fee assessment.

The decisive date for the fulfilment of the obligation outlined in points (a), (b) and (c) is the date when the payment order for transfer from a bank account was made.

- 7) In response to an appeal against a decision of a study fee pursuant to Section 58(3) of the Act, the Rector may reduce, waive or postpone the due date of the study fee as follows:
 - a) the fee will be halved (rounded down to the nearest hundred crowns) if the student achieved an average of no more than 1.8 in the previous academic year;
 - b) the fee will be reduced to one-third (rounded down to the nearest hundred crowns) if the student achieved a maximum grade point average of 1.5 for the previous academic year;
 - c) the fee will be waived if the student achieved a maximum grade point average of 1.2 for the previous academic year while fulfilling all academic obligations;
 - d) the fee is waived if the student meets the requirements outlined in Section 54a(2) of the Act;
 - e) the fee shall be reduced to a pro-rata amount if the student terminates their studies in accordance with Section 55(1) of the Act within the period for which the fee was assessed;
 - f) the due date of the study fee will be postponed based on the Rector's decision;
 - g) the fee will be reduced or waived when the students provides evidence of their difficult social situation;
 - h) in cases worthy of special consideration.

The principles outlined in points (a) to (h) cannot be combined.

Article 27

Study requirements at the University

The study requirements for accredited bachelor's and master's programmes are outlined in the Study and Examination Regulations for Students of Bachelor's and Master's Programmes at the University. The study requirements for accredited doctoral degree programmes conducted jointly by the University and a higher education institution are outlined in the Study and Examination Regulations for Students of Doctoral Programmes at the University. Doctoral study programmes conducted by individual faculties are governed by the internal regulations of the respective faculties.

Article 28

Study requirements for foreigners

- 1) The study requirements for foreigners must comply with the obligations arising from international treaties to which the Czech Republic is a party.
- 2) Foreigners who apply to study in study programmes offered by the faculties through student mobility programmes, international agreements or agreements and treaties that allow short-term study stays of foreign students at the University or its units are admitted without entrance examinations based on signed agreements (so-called "Exchange Students").
- 3) In cases not covered by paragraphs 1 and 2, foreign students are admitted to study programmes conducted in the Czech language under the same conditions as Czech citizens. Proof of proficiency in the Czech language is a prerequisite for admission. The proof may have the following forms:
 - a) certificate of successful completion of a Czech language examination at a public higher education institution that implements an accredited study programme focused on the teaching of the Czech language or an accredited lifelong learning programme focused on the teaching of the Czech language;
 - b) certificate of successful completion of a Czech language course for foreigners aimed at preparing them for study at university;
 - c) certificate of successful completion of a Czech language exam at an accredited institution.

Proof of language proficiency is not required for citizens of the Slovak Republic and for foreigners who have completed their secondary education with a secondary school leaving certificate or higher vocational education in conservatories in the Czech Republic or have completed university education in the Czech or Slovak language.

- 4) Foreign students may attend study programmes conducted in a foreign language according to the Study and Examination Regulations. For accredited doctoral study programs conducted jointly with a higher education institution, students must adhere to the Study and Examination Regulations for Students of Doctoral Programs at the University together with a higher education institution. Doctoral study programmes conducted by individual faculties are governed by the internal regulations of the respective faculties.
- 5) The admissions requirements and the course of study of foreigners not covered in paragraphs 1 to 4 are determined by the relevant faculty, following the internal regulations applicable to these categories of foreigners (so-called "Visiting Students"):
 - a) students not covered by the signed agreements referred to in paragraph 2,

- b) students pursuing their studies based on individual applications for one semester or academic year (so-called “Free Movers”),
 - c) students in lifelong learning programmes.
- 6) Where required by legislation, foreign students’ enrolment eligibility is verified during the registration to ensure they possess a valid residence permit in the Czech Republic and meet other requirements as stipulated by the laws governing foreign residence in the Czech Republic.¹

Article 29

Lifelong learning

As part of its educational initiatives, the University offers lifelong learning programs, catering to professional development or personal interests, in accordance with Section 60 of the Act. Detailed requirements and guidelines are outlined in the Lifelong Learning Regulations at the University.

Article 30

Training in internationally recognized courses

- 1) The University conducts internationally recognized courses aimed at improving the professional skills of students or graduates of the university (hereinafter referred to as “course”) pursuant to Section 60a of the Act.
- 2) Upon successful completion of the course, participants receive a certificate from the University and, where appropriate, an internationally recognized degree.
- 3) In cases where an internationally recognized degree is awarded to successful course graduates, the implementation of the course is determined by the Rector after deliberations in the Scientific Council of the University. The Head of the respective unit presents the proposal to the Rector, following the opinion of the Scientific Council.
- 4) The minimum requirements for course curriculum and assessment, the procedures for submitting course plans, their formalities, review processes, publication of course information, admission requirements, any applicable fees and payment methods, as well as the issuance of certificates and internationally recognized degrees, are specified in a directive issued by the Rector.
- 5) The directive referred to in paragraph 4 and other pertinent information about the courses are made publicly available on the University’s website. Prospective applicants are informed about these details well in advance of the course commencement.

¹ Act No. 326/1999 Coll., on the residence of foreigners in the territory of the Czech Republic, as amended

PART FOUR

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Article 31

At the University, scientific, research, development, innovation, artistic and other creative activities are centred around the following areas:

- a) linguistics and literature,
- b) history of Czech photography,
- c) artistic representation of modern society,
- d) relativistic and particle physics and its astrophysical applications,
- e) computational physics and data processing,
- f) mathematics,
- g) theoretical computer science,
- h) archaeology of Silesia,
- i) history and cultural heritage of Central Europe with a special focus on Silesia,
- j) public economics, economic policy and administration,
- k) financial economics and financial econometrics,
- l) financial, accounting and tax aspects of companies and financial institutions,
- m) information systems to support management decision-making,
- n) mathematical and statistical methods in economics,
- o) business economics and management with focus on small and medium-sized businesses,
- p) tourism,
- q) quality of life research,
- r) new social risks and prevention of risky behaviour,
- s) demographic development and inequalities in the Czech Republic,
- t) social services in the Czech Republic,
- u) nursing care,
- v) modern history and historical sociology of Central and Eastern Europe,
- w) political regimes, parties and movements in Central Europe after 1989.

PART FIVE

ACADEMIC STAFF

Article 32

Academic staff

- 1) The academic staff at the University comprises professors, associate professors, extraordinary professors, assistant professors, assistant lecturers and lecturers, as well as scientific, research and development staff who are employed by the University and engage in both teaching and creative activities according to their prearranged roles.
- 2) Other experts participate in teaching at the University on the basis of agreements on work performed outside the employment relationship.
- 3) The academic staff members are employees of the University, and according to Section 24(1)(e) of the Act, the authorities of the relevant faculty at the University are entitled to decide and act on behalf of the University in matters concerning the employment relationships of academic staff working within the faculty.
- 4) It is the responsibility of the respective senior employee, such as the Director of a higher education institution, the Head of an institute established at a faculty or the Head of a department, to ensure that the academic staff meets the necessary qualifications required for effective teaching.
- 5) Visiting professors and emeritus professors may be employed at the University.

Article 33

Visiting professors

- 1) The title “Visiting Professor of the Silesian University in Opava” (hereinafter referred to as “visiting professor”) may be granted to an academic staff member from another higher education institution, especially from a foreign one. The Rector, after deliberation in the Scientific Council, bestows this title upon the individual. The appointment decree defines the visiting professor’s responsibilities, equivalent to those of a professor or associate professor, as well as the duration of their stay at the University and it serves as evidence of the designation. The visiting professorship lasts for a minimum of one semester and a maximum of three academic years.
- 2) The visiting professor is a member of the academic staff of the university. They have the right to sit for the state examination if they meet the requirements specified in Section 53 of the Act.

Article 34

Professors Emeritus

- 1) The honorary title “Emeritus Professor of the Silesian University in Opava” (referred to as “emeritus professor”) is bestowed upon a former professor who was previously employed by the University. The Rector, following discussion in the Scientific Council, grants this designation, and it is confirmed through an appointment decree.

- 2) The title of emeritus professor does not grant membership in the academic community of the University or any property rights to the University. However, emeritus professors retain the privilege to participate in scientific research and artistic activities at the University and utilize its facilities and information technology for these purposes. Additionally, they have the right to address the academic community of the University during its meetings.

Article 35

Selection procedure

The recruitment process for academic staff positions at the University follows a competitive selection procedure. The specific guidelines and regulations governing the selection procedure are outlined in the Selection Procedure Regulations at the Silesian University in Opava.

Article 36

Habilitation and professor appointment procedure

- 1) Habilitation procedure and the procedure for the appointment of a professor in fields where the University is authorized to conduct such procedures are outlined in Sections 71 to 75 of the Act.
- 2) If a higher education institution is granted accreditation for habilitation or professor appointment procedures, these proceedings are conducted and initiated before its Scientific Board.
- 3) The University publicly lists the fields of study in which it is authorized to conduct habilitation or professor appointment procedures on its website. If a field of study is accredited at a specific faculty, the respective faculty is named.
- 4) The specific details and guidelines concerning habilitation and professor appointment procedure are defined in the Habilitation and Professor Appointment Procedure Regulation at the Silesian University in Opava.

P A R T S I X

SCHOLARSHIPS

Article 37

Scholarships

University students may be awarded scholarships. The conditions for awarding scholarships are outlined in the University's Scholarship Regulations.

PART SEVEN

RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

Article 38

Recognition of foreign university education and qualifications

The Rector decides on matters of recognition of foreign university education and qualifications in accordance with Sections 89 to 90a of the Act. When submitting an application for recognition of foreign university education and qualifications, the applicant is obliged to pay a fee of CZK 3,000 for the administrative procedure involved in reviewing the application. The fee serves as revenue for the University.

PART EIGHT

ACADEMIC INSIGNIA AND CEREMONIES

Article 39

Insignia, gowns and seal of the University

- 1) The insignia of the University symbolize the authority and responsibility of the Rector and Vice-Rectors and they uphold the academic traditions.
- 2) University gowns are worn on ceremonial occasions by the following individuals:
 - a) Rector and Vice-Rectors,
 - b) members of the Scientific Council, members of the Senate, professors and associate professors, and, at the decision of the Rector, other members of the academic community, especially graduating students,
 - c) distinguished guests invited by the Rector,
 - d) Bursar,
 - e) Beadle.
- 3) The seal of the University is reserved for marking ceremonial diplomas issued for honorary doctorates and medals awarded by the University.
- 4) The Rector shall determine the manner of use of the insignia, gowns and seal. The manner of use of the insignia and gowns of the faculties shall be determined by the Deans.
- 5) The documentation on the insignia, gowns and seals of the University is kept in the University Archives.

Article 40

Academic ceremonies, medals of the University

- 1) Matriculation is a ceremonial act that marks the formal admission of students into the academic community of the University.
- 2) Graduation is a ceremonial act in which the Rector, Vice-Rector, Dean or Vice-Dean presents a diploma or a supplement to a diploma to graduates of all types of study programmes.
- 3) Matriculation and graduation ceremonies are organized by the faculties or a higher education institution. These ceremonies include the academic matriculation, bachelor's, master's and doctoral vows, the text of which is set out in the annexe to the ceremony.
- 4) Associate professors who have successfully completed the habilitation procedure at the University are awarded their appointment decrees in a ceremonial act.
- 5) The schedule of matriculation and graduation ceremonies is set by the Rector.
- 6) The award of the scientific rank of doctor honoris causa and the graduation of doctor honoris causa are determined by the Rector's directive.
- 7) The University awards medals to its employees and other persons who have contributed to the development of the University and have made a significant contribution to the advancement of science and general education. The awarding of medals is governed by the Rector's directive.
- 8) The documentation on the medals and diplomas issued by the University is stored in the University Archives.

PART NINE

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 41

- 1) The Statutes of the Silesian University in Opava registered by the Ministry on 30 March 2006 under No 9 003/2006-30, as amended, with the exception of Articles 23, 24 and 26(1) and (7), are hereby repealed; Articles 23, 24 and 26(1) and (7) are repealed as of 31 August 2017.
- 2) This Statute was approved under Section 9(1)(b)(3) of the Act by the Senate on 7 March 2017.
- 3) This Statute shall come into force pursuant to Section 36(4) of the Act on the date of registration by the Ministry.
- 4) This Statute shall take effect on the date of its entry into force, except for Articles 24 and 26(1) and (5), which shall enter into force on 1 September 2017.

Amendments to the Statutes of the Silesian University in Opava were approved pursuant to Section 9 (1) (b) (3) of Act No. 111/1998 Coll., on Higher Education and on Amendments and Supplements to Other Acts (the Higher

Education Act), as amended, by the Academic Senate of the Silesian University in Opava on 23 August 2017, 16 October 2019, 19 November 2019, 9 February 2021, 17 February 2021 and 7 June 2022.

Amendments to the Statutes of the Silesian University in Opava come into force pursuant to Section 36(4) of the Higher Education Act on the date of registration by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

Amendments to the Statutes of the Silesian University in Opava shall take effect on the date of registration by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, with the exceptions specified in the individual amendments.

doc. Ing. Pavel Tuleja, Ph.D., v. r.
Rector

Annexe No. 1

to the Statutes of the University

ACADEMIC MATRICULATION AND GRADUATION VOWS

1) Academic matriculation vows

I solemnly promise, with a full understanding of my responsibilities, to fulfil all the obligations of a student at the Silesian University as imposed by the Statutes of the University and my study programme.

I shall uphold the honour of the Silesian University through my conduct and actions.

2) Bachelor's graduation vows

I solemnly promise to apply the knowledge I have gained for the betterment of society, seeking truth and adhering to the principles of ethics, humanity and democracy.

I shall keep the Silesian University, which has granted me this degree, in my permanent memory.

3) Master's graduation vows

I solemnly promise to apply the knowledge I have gained for the betterment of society, seeking truth and adhering to the principles of ethics, humanity and democracy.

I shall keep the Silesian University, which has granted me this degree, in my permanent memory.

4) Rigorosum graduation vows

I solemnly promise to develop and apply the knowledge I have gained for the betterment of society, seeking truth, advancing scientific knowledge and adhering to the principles of ethics, humanity and democracy.

I shall keep the Silesian University, which has granted me this degree, in my permanent memory.

5) Doctoral graduation vows

I solemnly promise to dedicate myself to the pursuit of scientific knowledge and its practical application for the betterment of society, always seeking truth and adhering to the principles of ethics, humanity and democracy.

I will keep the Silesian University, which has granted me this degree, in my permanent memory.