

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports registered, in accordance with Section 36(2) and (5) of Act No. 111/1998 Coll., on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments and Supplements to Other Acts (the Higher Education Act), on under ref. no. MSMT- /2021, an amendment to the Rules of the System for Ensuring the Quality of Educational, Creative and Related Activities and Internal Evaluation of the Quality of Educational, Creative and Related Activities at Silesian University in Opava.

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Mgr. Karolina Gondková
Director of the Higher Education Department



II. Change

Rules of the system for ensuring for educational, creative and related activities and internal evaluation of the quality of educational, creative and related activities at Silesian University in Opava

dated 2021

II. Amendment

Rules of the quality assurance system

for educational, creative and related activities and internal evaluation of the quality of educational, creative and related activities of the Silesian University in Opava dated 2021

Article 1

The rules of the quality assurance system for educational, creative and related activities and internal quality assessment of educational, creative and related activities at Silesian University in Opava are amended as follows:

1. Article 14 is repealed and replaced by a new Article 14, which reads as follows:

"Article 14

Code of Ethics and Ethics Committee of the University

- 1) In order to improve the quality of the internal environment, the University establishes internal rules for the conduct and behaviour of University employees and students, which are set out in the University Code of Ethics (hereinafter referred to as the "Code of Ethics").
- 2) The Code of Ethics formulates the basic principles of good conduct and proper behaviour at work and during studies at the University, as well as principles derived from generally accepted ethical and social norms, values and culture. Compliance with the rules of the Code of Ethics is binding for both employees and students of the University and contributes to the development of quality and trust in the fulfilment of the University's mission.
- 3) The Code of Ethics is approved by the Academic Senate of the University upon the proposal of the Rector, after discussion by the Rector's Council, the Scientific Council of the University and the Internal Evaluation Council. The Code of Ethics is published in Czech and English.
- 4) Supervision of compliance with ethical principles at the university, including the assessment of possible violations of the Code of Ethics, is ensured by the university's Ethics Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "Ethics Committee"), which is established by the Rector. Details on the composition and procedures of the Ethics Committee are governed by the Rules of Procedure of the Ethics Committee, which are issued by the Rector in the form of an internal regulation after discussion in the University Academic Senate.
- 5) In the event of a serious violation of ethical principles, the provisions of the disciplinary rules for students or the Labour Code shall apply.

2. A new Article 14a is inserted after Article 14, which reads as follows:

"Article 14a

University Ombudsman

- 1) In order to ensure the protection of the rights of employees and students, an independent university ombudsman (hereinafter referred to as the "ombudsman") shall be established, whose main mission is to provide assistance to university employees and students in resolving problems related to work or study at the university in order to ensure equal and fair treatment at the university.
- 2) The position of ombudsman is incompatible with the positions of rector, vice-rector, bursar, dean, vice-dean, faculty secretary, director of a university institute, head of another workplace within the meaning of Section 22(1)(c) of the Act, and chair of the academic senate. The position of ombudsman may only be held by a person of recognised authority and high moral standing.
- 3) The ombudsman shall perform his or her function objectively, independently and impartially. The ombudsman shall be remunerated for the performance of his or her function.
- 4) The ombudsman is appointed by the rector after prior approval by the university's academic senate. After prior discussion in the university's academic senate, the rector is entitled to dismiss the

ombudsman. The ombudsman has the right to resign from his or her position. The ombudsman's term of office is four years.

- 5) The ombudsman is invited as a guest to all meetings of the ethics committee and may submit proposals to the ethics committee. If he or she requests to speak at a meeting of the ethics committee, the chair shall grant him or her the floor. The ombudsman may be a member of the ethics committee.
- 6) The ombudsman's responsibilities include discussing and investigating proposals and mediating disputes related to work or study at the university and proposing recommendations to remedy any shortcomings identified. University employees and students may contact the ombudsman in particular with complaints and proposals concerning:
 - a) discriminatory behaviour,
 - b) equal access,
 - c) sexual harassment,
 - d) bullying, mobbing, bossing and other forms of abuse.
- 7) The Ombudsman is authorised to conduct independent investigations at the request of employees, students or on his own initiative. To this end, he is authorised to request the necessary documentation from employees, managers and university bodies and to verify the facts. After conducting an investigation, the Ombudsman shall issue a recommendation and, if he or she finds the complaint to be justified, shall forward it, together with his or her recommendation, for further action, depending on the nature of the matter, to the head of the relevant department, the Rector, the Academic Senate of the University or the Ethics Committee.
- 8) Employees and students may submit complaints to the ombudsman in writing to the university's address, by email to his address published on the university's website, or in person.
- 9) The ombudsman shall report on his activities once a year to the rector and the academic senate of the university.

Article 2

Final provisions

- 1) This amendment to the Rules of the System for Ensuring the Quality of Educational, Creative and Related Activities and Internal Evaluation of the Quality of Educational, creative and related activities of the Silesian University in Opava was approved in accordance with Section 9(1)(b)(3) of Act No. 111/1998 Coll., on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments and Supplements to Other Acts (the Higher Education Act), as amended, by the Academic Senate of Silesian University in Opava on 7 December 2021.
- 2) This amendment shall enter into force pursuant to Section 36(4) of Act No. 111/1998 Coll., on Higher Education Institutions and on Amendments and Supplements to Other Acts (Higher Education Act), as amended, on the date of its registration by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.
- 3) This amendment shall take effect on 1 January 2022.

Rector

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

RNDr. Vladimír Sedlář, CSc.
Chair of the Academic Senate