



Charles University

ANNUAL **2021** REPORT

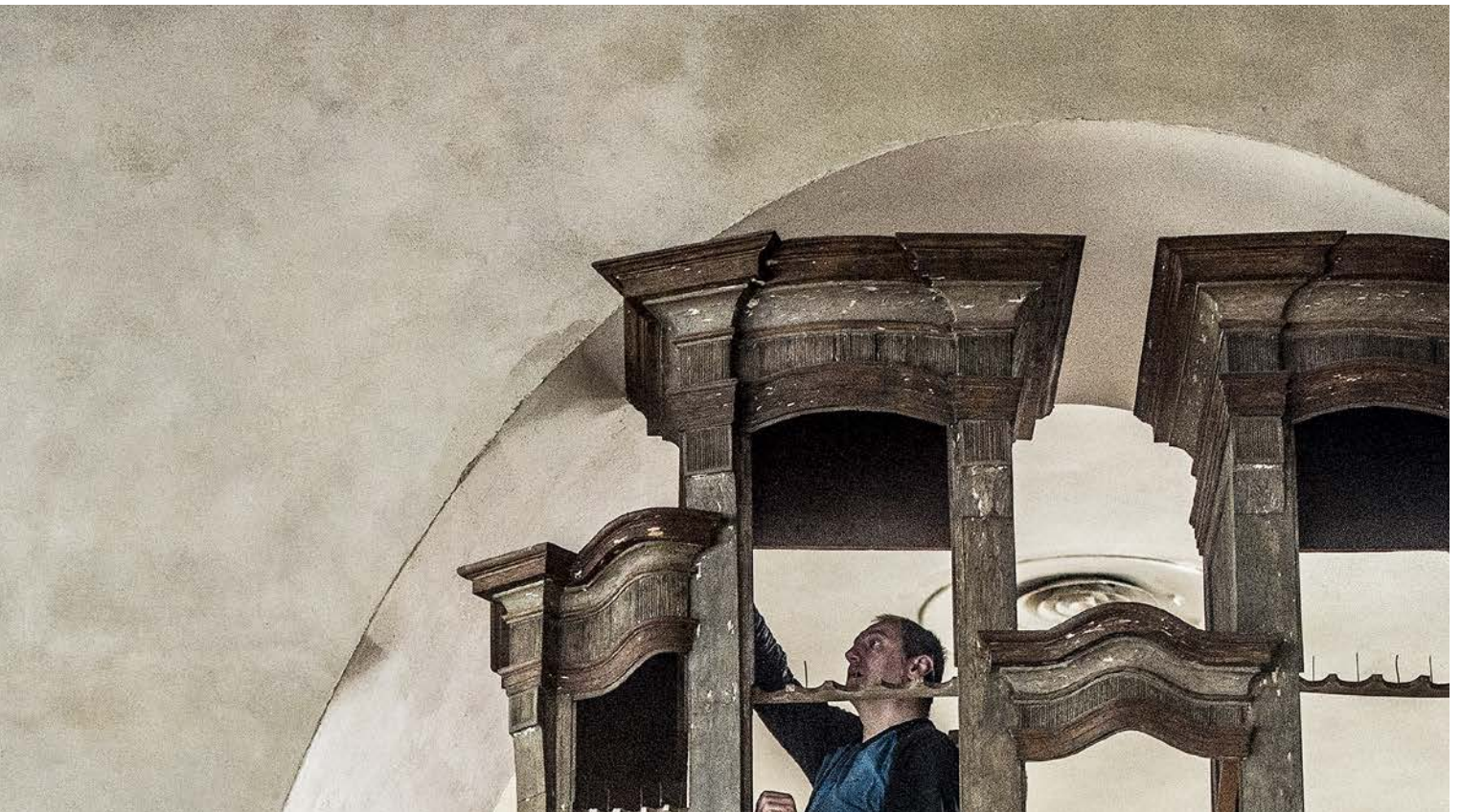


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Dear readers and friends of Charles University,

You're sure to have noticed that one of the featured stories of Charles University in 2021 and one of the many events of 2021 is that of the new organ installed in the Great Hall of the historic Karolinum building. That's why we've illustrated the whole of the Annual Report, including the title page, with photos from the installation and renovation of the instrument.



FOREWORD BY THE RECTOR





Dear colleagues and friends of Charles University,

You have before you the annual report on the activities of Charles University in 2021, in which you will read about everything important and interesting we have done at the University in the past 12 months. The report is presented as a series of thematic stories told by specific people from the University – employees, academics and students.

Unfortunately, one story has dominated and significantly affected the lives of every one of us. I am referring to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, which continued to hinder the normal functioning of our society at all levels. Unfortunately, the second year of the pandemic also brought with it a large number of complications and sad stories caused by that terrible disease. However, we also witnessed many stories of amazing solidarity between people, hope, and great determination to cope with and address the critical situation.

One of the most important events of the year in the fight against COVID-19 was the launch of the mass vaccination programme. The vaccine is the way to liberate society from the crisis, save human lives, and gradually restore the normal functioning of our society.

The vaccine is the result of the hard work of hundreds of scientists (both male and female) and research teams around the world, who deserve our gratitude for their commitment and resolve. Research universities, where top research is fostered and the best research teams are formed, play a big role in this success.

I am proud that the researchers and scholars of Charles University have also been involved in international cooperation on research into new vaccines. I also appreciate the assistance of hundreds of volunteers, employees and students of our University, which they provided at specific places.

Our medical faculties were very active in helping with the mass vaccination programme, offering both their premises and the assistance of volunteers. For example, the vaccination centres at the Institute of Immunology and Microbiology

at the First Faculty of Medicine and the General University Hospital in Prague had a daily vaccination capacity of up to 500 people.

A Postcovid Care Centre was established at the University Hospital in Hradec Králové in cooperation with representatives of Charles University. The Centre aims to help those who have had COVID-19 and continue to suffer from long-term consequences.

With the support of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, CU prepared summer tutoring camps for students. A total of six rounds of tutoring were organized, dealing with four topics: mathematics and science with the development of physical skills, sciences, language and humanities, and general skills.

The University's subsidiary CUIP a. s. was also very successful in helping with the response to the pandemic. In September one of its spin-offs, GeneSpector s. r. o., presented a diagnostic method for predicting the clinical course of infectious diseases, including COVID-19. In cooperation with global company Sarstedt, it ensured a supply of universal safe sampling kits for the PCR testing of children, students and businesses in the Czech Republic. This was an important step, because the tests are highly reliable and no sampling team is required.

The second year of the pandemic was an extremely challenging one for all teachers, academics and University staff. All of us had to cope with regulations and restrictions every day, with the alternation of distance and in-person forms of teaching and the cancellation of many educational, cultural and social events, as well as with frequent mass testing.

I am very pleased with the enormous commitment shown by every one of you who, through your work, helped to handle the situation.

This allowed us not only to maintain the University to a high standard, but also to successfully complete strategic projects and long-term tasks. I would like to express my immense gratitude to everyone for their efforts.

One of the success stories of 2021 was the installation of a new organ in the venerable Karolinum. The contract for the new organ was signed on 22 July 2020 and a year later, in August 2021, the new organ was installed in the Great Hall. It is truly a beautiful musical instrument of the highest quality. The organ has **1,602 pipes** and **2 keyboards** and weighs 10 tonnes. They sounded for the first time at the inaugural concert in the autumn and I am delighted that all other formal occasions in the life of the academic community, including matriculation, graduations and public concerts, events that have taken place in the Great Hall for centuries, will have the very best musical accompaniment. The new instrument will serve many generations to come, and with proper maintenance it should remain functional for over 300 years.

In 2021 we paid special attention to the promotion of research, and especially its quality. In this area, Charles University became the first Czech university to complete an internal evaluation of research activity. Research results covering the period 2014–2018 were assessed by over 700, mostly international, scholars. A total of four expert panels were established, where individual scientific fields and disciplines were divided into the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and medicine. The scholars were involved in the evaluation for almost two years, resulting in a total of 40 separate reports, including a comprehensive final document (the Executive Summary). The next round of evaluation is scheduled for 2024 and will assess the period and work in the years 2019–2023.

For the second year running, the activity of CU's Vzdělávání21 think-tank, an expert platform established by the University with the aim of formulating opinions and initiatives for improving the education system, continued its activities. In 2021, **four** expert opinions were issued, **two** conferences were organised and a large public debate was also prepared. In February 2021 the think-tank published an analysis entitled **Risk Factors in the School Environment related to spread of COVID-19.**

FOREWORD BY THE RECTOR

In November we presented a proposal for **modifying school-leaving (*maturita*) exams. The project gradually won the support of the Ministry of Education, as well as other professional and expert groups in the field of education.**

Despite the restrictions and anti-COVID measures, we continued to successfully develop CU's international cooperation.

One of the most important events that took place at the Karolinum in 2021 was the annual conference of the Coimbra Group, which was hosted by Charles University from 15 to 18 June. The membership of the Coimbra Group encompasses 41 major universities from 21 European countries. The topic of the meeting in Prague was the current issue of sustainable development. The speakers at the conference included **Mariya Gabriel**, EU Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, **Amina J. Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Professor **Gary Marks**, an American political scientist and author of the concept of multi-level governance.

In September the Karolinum hosted another important international meeting, at which 13 Czech rectors met with Professor Michael Murphy, President of the European University Association (EUA), as part of the Czech Rectors' Conference.

In 2021, CU also hosted and chaired a seminar on the autonomy of universities in Europe. On this occasion five university networks – the COIMBRA GROUP, UNICA, EUROPEAUM, LERU and EUA – signed the Prague Declaration II. In it, they confirmed their commitment to cooperation, freedom of thought, autonomy, democracy, tolerance and humanism. The declaration follows the 2016 Prague Declaration, in which three university associations – COIMBRA GROUP, UNICA and EUROPAEUM – emphasized the need to respect humanistic and democratic ideas and principles.

CU continued its intensive and successful cooperation with top European universities under the umbrella of the 4EU+ university alliance. Together with Charles University, its members also include Universität Heidelberg, Sorbonne Université, Uniwersytet Warszawski, Università degli Studi di Milano and Københavns Universitet.

After obtaining the last necessary zoning decisions that allowed us to start construction in May, **we made particularly significant progress with the Albertov Campus project.** The project is one of the largest investments by the state and the largest construction project undertaken by Charles University in Prague city centre in the last 100 years. The Albertov Campus hosts facilities for three faculties – the Faculty of Science, the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, and the First Faculty of Medicine.

These facilities will be state-of-the-art and offer the best prospects for top international scientific and research. One of the largest student centres in Europe will be created in the city of Prague. The total costs amount to approximately 7.8 billion CZK, assuming multi-source financing (the state budget, CU's own resources, operational programmes, The Czech Republic's Recovery and Resilience Plan and National Investment Plan, and other financial instruments).

CU also continued further renovation and modernization projects. Other major investment projects include the second stage of construction of the University Medical Centre of the Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen (UniMec) and the construction of the MEPHARED 2 teaching centre in Hradec Králové. A major renovation of the building of the Rectorate of Charles University in Prague was also carried out.

We also devote a considerable amount of attention to fulfilling the third role of the University and our social responsibility. We organized a number of social events, seminars and discussions.

In March the Patriots' Hall of the Karolinum hosted a conference entitled "One Year with COVID-19. What Next?". The conference was divided into five thematic panels: education, science, health, economy and society. Top researchers from Charles University, representatives of the government, the media, professional institutions and the public took part in a vital debate on how to further address the critical situation.

One project that highlighted the issue of violence against women received considerable attention. The project was prepared by CU in cooperation with IKEA and non-profit organizations belonging to the NeNa coalition. A discussion on the topic took place at the Hybernská Campus on 7 October. Czech EU Commissioner Věra Jourová also participated. **On 25 November** CU organised a webinar as part of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, entitled Domestic Violence: Myth vs. Reality, as well as lighting the Karolinum building up in red.

We helped to deal with the tragic consequences of the devastating tornado that damaged thousands of houses in the south of Moravia, and unfortunately claimed several lives. The University, together with the faculties, donated 1 million CZK to the transparent account of the South Moravian Region, which had been affected by the tornado. We also offered a scholarship in the amount of **100,000 CZK to students** who found themselves in acute social distress as a result of the devastating tornado.

I am delighted that 2021 saw the largest-ever number of applicants for study at our institution, with a total of 65,037 applications for study at the University – almost four thousand more than in 2020 (61,117). Historically, we also recorded the greatest-ever number of applicants from abroad, with a total of 15,651 applications submitted. The third historical “best” refers to the number of students admitted, which in 2021 reached total of 26,067. Charles University has long held the status of the largest university in the Czech Republic, with the largest student community; in 2021 50,918 students studied at the University across faculties, fields and programmes.

We strive to create the best facilities for students. We became the first university to launch a new library platform, Alma, and a central search engine, SHOW, which allows the simultaneous searching of printed, digitized and electronic information sources available at Charles University. **139 commercial and 66 open access databases** are available to readers at CU libraries. Between September, when the project was launched, and the end of 2021, the project had been utilized by **36,952** readers.

The University pays considerable attention to communication tools and their modernization and development. In 2021, CU communication projects achieved extraordinary success when they won four awards in the Golden Semicolon professional competition: 2nd place in the Best Annual Report category, 3rd place in the Best Magazine category, and two other TOP awards for the CU calendar and the UK Forum online magazine. We also successfully supported and developed the new Na Karlovku recruitment website, as well as expanding the University’s social media channels to include versions in English.

In the autumn of 2021, the Academic Senate of Charles University took on one of the most important tasks of academic self-government: the election of a rector. Academic elections are one of the most important and lasting pillars of academic autonomy and freedom. On 22 October 2021 **Prof. MUDr. Milena Králíčková, Ph.D.**, a Vice-Rector of Charles University, was elected rector by the senators in the first round of voting.

The rectorial election writes a new chapter in history, as for the first time, Charles University, the most well-known university in Central Europe, will be led by a woman. Professor Milena Králíčková was Vice-Rector for Education for eight years. I would like to thank her for her intense work, and at the same time wish her only the best in the performance of her new function, and especially a lot of perseverance, energy and strong nerves. I believe that she will succeed in further developing the top quality of the University’s educational and research activities, as well as in strengthening and modernizing its communication infrastructure, facilities and international cooperation.

FOREWORD BY THE RECTOR

Finally, let me say thank you. I led Charles University as Rector for eight years. When I took up my position in 2014, I accepted it with great humility and responsibility. The University is a community of 60,000 people and its success is based on a constant effort to always seek the best solution and path that will benefit our alma mater. I followed such a path, and I always endeavoured to stay on it.

I would like to thank you all – students, teachers, researchers, deans, directors, employees, assistants, and in particular all vice-rectors and members of the Rector's Board, for your cooperation, support and unstinting efforts to make the oldest and largest university in the Czech Republic better and more successful.

prof. MUDr. Tomáš Zima, DrSc., MBA

Rector of Charles University



2021 IN STORIES

The new Rector, Prof. MUDr. Milena Králíčková, Ph.D.

In the autumn of 2021, the Academic Senate of Charles University took on one of the most important tasks of academic self-government: the election of a candidate to the position of Rector. Academic elections are one of the most important and lasting pillars of academic autonomy and freedom. For the first time in history, a woman will take over leadership of the University. The new Rector of Charles University is Prof. MUDr. Milena Králíčková, Ph.D. She replaces Prof. MUDr. Tomáš Zima, Dr.Sc., who had led CU since 2014, in the role.

The Rector has been the top representative of the elected university self-government since the Middle Ages. The function of the Rector has existed since the founding of the University and the earliest documented election of a rector took place in 1368. Charles University's preparations for the rectorial election were followed with great interest by the whole academic community and the final round of the election featured two well-known figures at the University – Prof. MUDr. Milena Králíčková, Ph.D., and Prof. PhDr. Michal Stehlík, Ph.D.

Both candidates attended meetings and discussions at all 17 faculties of the University, as well as meetings with members of the Academic Senate of the University. A huge commitment not only to students and employees, but also to our country, is concentrated in the person of the Rector. Modern times and the enormous scope and reach of the University place unprecedented demands on the person of the Rector. Not only does the Rector represent the academic community of Charles University, and must therefore be a recognized personality on an international scale, but at the same time his or her second role, the managerial role, is the more important one. Therefore, meetings between candidates and members of the academic community have always been very rich in discussion, with both sides presenting and debating their own ideas about the functioning and future direction of our alma mater, and not only over the current four-year term of our rectors.

The Rector was elected on 22 October 2021 at the traditional venue of the Patriots' Hall in the Karolinum, and the mem-

bers of the Academic Senate cast their votes in the premises of the Treasury, underlining the dignity and seriousness of the whole act. Following a secret ballot, the Academic Senate elected Prof. MUDr. Milena Králíčková, Ph.D., to the position of Rector of Charles University in the first round of voting, with 55 votes from the senators present.

In the election, the Academic Senate gave the new Rector a very strong mandate. While she is the 509th person to lead Charles University, she is the first woman to hold the position in the entire long history of the University. Charles University thus confirmed openness, equality and equality of rights at all levels of its functioning. Rector Milena Králíčková was elected to head the University for her human, moral, professional and managerial skills, and I firmly believe that she will successfully lead the University through the next few years.



Prof. Ing. František Zahálka, Ph.D.,
President of the Academic Senate of Charles University



22 October 2021: At its sitting, the Academic Senate of Charles University elects the new Rector of Charles University, **prof. MUDr. Milena Králíčková, Ph.D.**, doctor and researcher in gynaecology and infertility from the Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen. Her counter-candidate was prof. PhDr. Michal Stehlík, Ph.D., former Dean of the CU Faculty of Arts.

55 of 69: Number of votes that the new Rector received in the vote by the Academic Senate.

1 February 2022: The new Rector officially takes office.

4 years: Term of office of the new Rector.

For the first time in history, a woman leads Charles University.

New Organ

In the autumn of 2021, 1,602 pipes resounded through the Great Hall of the venerable Karolinum. After a long period of preparation and planning, a new organ had been installed in one of the most symbolic places at Charles University. For centuries, the Great Hall has hosted graduations, matriculations and solemn occasions in the life of the academic community, as well as concerts. Thanks to the new organ, all events will now have musical accompaniment of the highest possible standard.

On 2 September 2021, the German organ company Vleugels officially handed over the new organ installed in the Great Hall of the Karolinum for trial operation, concluding the chapter on the construction of a unique instrument for Charles University.

The production and installation of the organ itself was preceded by a long period of preparations. Even during the selection procedure it was clear that the organ would get a new look (organ prospectus). And, because the new concept also required structural modifications, it was first necessary to obtain the consent of heritage conservation bodies, as the Great Hall of the Karolinum is listed as a national cultural monument.

In order for the organ in the auditorium to sound better than the original one built by Organa Kutná Hora in 1968, it was necessary to enlarge the balcony and place at least half of the total number of pipes on it. Due to the length of the pipes – and of the bass pipes in particular – it was also necessary to lower the balcony.

At the same time, a new problem arose: what to do with the old instrument? The Baroque prospectus of the first organ, which was transferred to the auditorium during the great reconstruction after the Second World War by architect Jaroslav Frager, was returned to its original location in the Jesuit church of St. Ignatius in Chomutov. Following the dismantling, the pipes of the organ were placed in the University depository in Lešetice, where they are waiting for anyone who may potentially be interested in them.

The next stage was the aforementioned necessary modification of the space. The fact that the new instrument weighs 10 tonnes, while the newly

modified balcony can bear a weight of only 3 tonnes, had to be taken into account. Even this apparent problem was resolved without the slightest complication. Before the new wooden floor was laid, the University decided to place a box with a message for the next generation and contemporary documents of Charles University and the organ company Vleugels, including the technical parameters of the instrument, in the space under the organ.

A further complication occurred during the preparation of the transport: the only route for the truck with the dismantled instrument to reach the University was through the Powder Tower, i.e. against the direction of traffic in a one-way street. Fortunately, this time, too, everything went smoothly thanks to the assistance of the police. And so at exactly 5.14 a.m. on Monday, 2 August 2021, a precious cargo stood outside the doors of Charles University.

The new organ was completely built within 30 days and handed over for trial operation on 2 September. A month later, on 4 October, the inaugural concert of the new organ took place, successfully completing the project.

Personally, I believe that, by acquiring a new organ, we have raised the sound quality of the musical accompaniment in the hall to an incomparably higher level than with the previous instrument. The German company Orgelbau Vleugels GmbH has built a truly outstanding instrument. In fact, the magical place that is the Great Hall of the Karolinum undeniably deserves it!



MgA. Jan Kalfus,
organist





1,602 pipes and **2 keyboards** form the new organ in the Great Hall.

10,000 possible sound combinations are contained in its memory system.

10 tonnes: total weight of the instrument.

5 metres: length of the longest pipe. The shortest measures **1** centimetre.

29 registers

10 June 2019 date of announcement by CU of a tender for the supplier. The contract for the new organ was signed on 22 July 2020 and it was installed in the Grand Hall in August 2021.

18.6 million CZK: that's what the new organ cost. Of this, **85%** was provided by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

300 years lifespan of the instrument with proper maintenance.

Interdisciplinary cooperation is crucial for COVID-19 research

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the importance of science in our lives. It was careful and diligent work carried out in laboratories that became the key to resolving the crisis. Many students across the University helped with research projects at CU. Connecting research teams not only between institutions and disciplines, but also between individual countries, proved to be extremely important.

After spending a short time working from home during the first wave of the Covid pandemic, I began to think that I couldn't just stay at home, but that I would volunteer somewhere.

My first choice was the Czech Red Cross, but shortly after that, a number of research laboratories began to get involved in COVID-19 testing. Over the next few days, we were asked to help isolate infectious material from patients suffering from COVID-19, so I volunteered for a period to process samples. In order to isolate viral RNA, we used a special solution designed by our colleagues from the First Faculty of Medicine to enable the fast and safe processing of samples. However, even at that time, the work took place under strict safety conditions and we worked in protective suits.

Subsequently, as part of the cooperation between laboratories, I and other volunteers at the BIOCEV research centre participated in the preparation and collection of material for the analysis of samples from patients. It seemed logical to me that I should at least participate a little bit in something like this and help. There are many people who have been and still are involved in various research projects and are coming up with new discoveries.

High-intensity research in the field of COVID-19 was and is still ongoing at Charles University and other institutions, and methods were introduced to accelerate the processing and analysis of large numbers of samples. Many of my colleagues have come up

with innovative solutions, be they for sample preparation, analysis, or special diagnostic procedures that are able to detect, for example, the severity of COVID-19. It turned out that interdisciplinary cooperation, and sometimes cooperation between institutions from different countries, really is very important. This interconnection of teams can lift research into a particular problem to a high level. Nowadays, we can say what the virus looks like inside, at the molecular level, and thanks to this knowledge, experts investigating the communication of the protein with the receptor in simulated conditions are then able to predict the mutations that can arise in the virus in proteins that directly interact with specific receptors in our body. Stories like these are fascinating and are the reason why it is necessary to support the development of science. Research into COVID-19 itself can be transferred to the study of other diseases to a certain extent and new molecular, analytical and diagnostic procedures can be utilized. From this point of view, we can observe certain positives for the world of science. In any case, recently the situation has been difficult for everyone, so I hope that science will be able to continue its development in quieter times.



Ing. Olga Součková, Ph.D.

student in Biochemistry and Pathobiochemistry,
First Faculty of Medicine of Charles University



September 2021: GeneSpector s. r. o. presented a diagnostic method that predicted the clinical course of an infectious disease, including COVID-19.

In cooperation with global company Sarstedt, it brought universal safe sampling kits for the PCR testing of children, students and businesses to the Czech Republic. The tests are highly reliable and no sampling team is required.

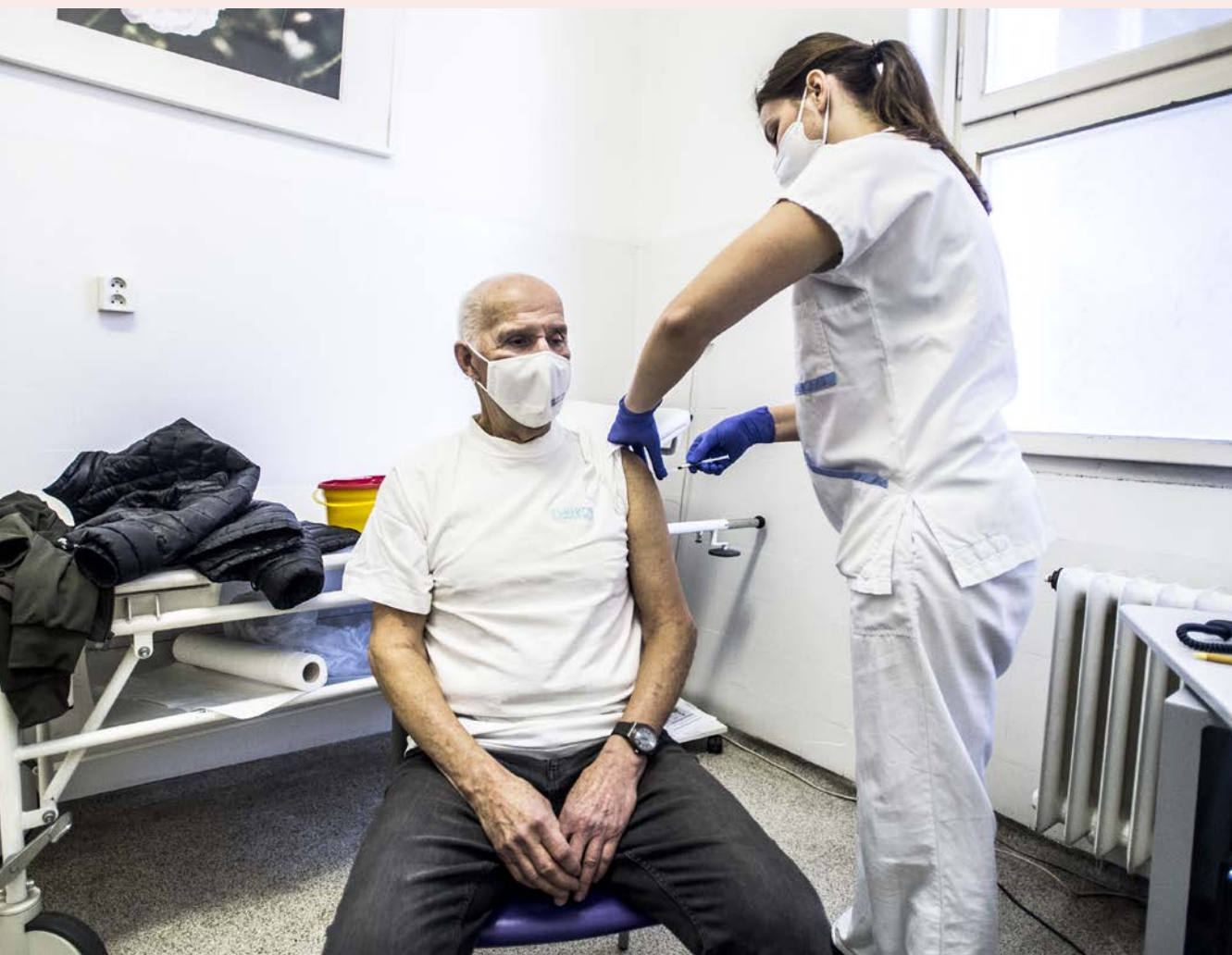
305 million crowns: Revenues of the GeneSpector s. r. o. spin-off in 2021. In the year and a half since its foundation, its revenue has totalled more than **500 million CZK**.

500 people per day: capacity of the vaccination centre at the Institute of Immunology and Microbiology of the First Faculty of Medicine

and the General Faculty Hospital in Prague. The medical faculties of Charles University were intensively involved in vaccination against COVID-19.

The Postcovid Care Centre was established at the University Hospital in Hradec Králové in cooperation with representatives of Charles University. The Centre helps those who have had COVID-19 and continue to suffer from long-term consequences.

6 tours and 4 thematic focuses: CU prepared summer tutoring camps with the support of the Ministry of Education, which dealt with the following topics: mathematics and science with the development of physical skills, science, languages and the humanities, and general skills.



International events in 2021: Meeting of member universities of the Coimbra Group at the Karolinum

The largest international event hosted by Charles University last year was undoubtedly the annual Coimbra Group conference. Preparations for the event took more than a year. The organization required the involvement of people from all sections of the Rector's Office and the constantly changing COVID situation meant that the schedule had to be completely changed every month. In the end, the event took place online and lasted for almost all of June.

The Coimbra Group, of which Charles University is a member, brings together the oldest universities in Europe. The goal of the group is not only to promote internationalization and share good practice and cooperation in the fields of education, research and administration, but also to actively influence education in Europe. Its membership currently encompasses 41 institutions, stretching from Edinburgh to Istanbul. The organisation of the annual conference is a very important issue, as it brings together not only representatives of the universities, but also European and national political leaders. The conference schedule includes closed expert discussions on topics related to research, education and current social problems, the outputs of which influence the direction of EU policy. The programme also includes the bestowing of the prestigious Arenberg Award to students and a section of the conference open to the public.

In June 2020 we at the International Relations Office, in cooperation with our colleagues from other departments of the Rector's Office, started to prepare a four-day event for approximately 250 participants. Of course, all of the plans anticipated the in-person attendance of participants, because, after three months of the pandemic, none of us thought that, a year later, the situation would be even worse. However, twelve months later, all we had left of the original proposal was a website. Although it may seem at first glance that the preparation of an online conference would be much easier, the opposite was true. The programme was extended to four weeks of meet-

ings, from public events to closed meetings between university leaders. Instead of large halls for dozens of people, it was suddenly necessary to provide adequate equipment for offices, while technical support had to be available almost constantly. The accompanying programme turned into virtual tours of the research centre and historical monuments. The coordination of the public conference, which took place on Zoom and was also streamed on YouTube, with one of the moderators sitting in the Patriots' Hall at CU, and the other in Poitiers in France, was just the icing on the cake.

However, despite all the difficulties, I believe that the event as a whole made a very good impression, which was reflected in the feedback we received from the participants. Charles University therefore not only lived up to its reputation, but its flexible and professional approach exceeded the expectations of the management of the Coimbra Group itself. However, the benefit to the University was not only social. The unprecedented situation we found ourselves in forced us to change our traditional ways of organizing international events, and I firmly believe that we will be able to draw on these new possibilities and creativity in the preparation of future events.



Mgr. et Mgr. Tereza Vosejpková,
4EU+ Mobility Officer, International Relations Office



15–18 June CU hosted the annual Coimbra Conference. The topic was sustainable development at universities.

13 rectors participated in the meeting of the Czech Rectors' Conference with Professor Michael Murphy, President of the European University Association (EUA), that took place at the Karolinum on 24 September 2021.

7 closing resolutions – the outcome of the meeting.

41 universities from **23 countries** are members of the Coimbra Group.

4EU+: Charles University, Heidelberg Universität, Sorbonne Université, Uniwersytet Warszawski, Università degli Studi di Milano and Københavns Universitet all cooperate through the 4EU+ European university alliance.

Number of inter-university agreements: **208**

Number of strategic partners: **3**

Number of key partners: **10**

Working together against domestic violence

As part of its social responsibility, in 2021 Charles University participated in a project aimed at combating domestic violence, which has increased significantly during the coronavirus pandemic. The project shows how important it is to forge connections between the academic world, commercial partners and the non-profit sector to address the problems faced by society.

Universities are often associated primarily with their educational role. They offer degree programmes, give credits, award degrees, and advance knowledge through research. In an increasingly complex society, one with a tendency towards fragmentation, there has been a growing need in recent decades to link academia with fieldwork – in different segments of society. Universities can thus both contribute certain know-how and, thanks to their field experience, advance the theoretical understanding of a changing world.

If universities are to fulfil this role, they need to become a certain driving force, especially at times when society is undergoing turbulent changes, such as during a pandemic.

One of Charles University's responses to the spread of COVID-19 was a project dealing with what was, without doubt, a burning topic during the pandemic: domestic violence.

In 2021, IKEA linked up with Charles University and the NeNa coalition in a unique project that brought together the corporate sphere, non-profit organizations and the academic community. Several priorities were defined within the framework of this cooperation – firstly, direct support for victims of domestic violence through organizations within the NeNa coalition, research focused mainly on stereotypes related to the topic of domestic violence

in society, carried out by Kantar Hoffmann in cooperation with IKEA, and also a number of educational activities – including a new course for students of various CU faculties on the topic of violence in close relationships and a panel discussion on the occasion of the opening of the Hyb4City premises.

The linking of the corporate sphere, the non-profit sector and the academic community ensured a significantly greater impact, which also opened up the possibility of promoting the topic at different levels in society, from a newly equipped safe house for victims of domestic violence, through chat service support, to an outreach campaign by a large company – one just like IKEA.

For me personally, participation in the project showed me how it is possible to work across segments of society and look for a common voice that allows to find a common voice that will make it possible for us to communicate even such a difficult topic as domestic violence.



Mgr. Dana Moree, Dr.,
Faculty of Humanities of Charles University

CU, in cooperation with IKEA and non-profit organizations in the NeNa coalition, undertook joint activities to highlight the issue of violence in close relationships.

7.8 million CZK: Amount of the donation given to Charles University by IKEA. The University will allocate money for direct assistance to victims through non-profit organisations, research, expertise and the coordination of all activities and cooperation on a public campaign.

On **7 October 2021** a discussion on the topic took place at the Hybernská Campus. Czech EU Commissioner Věra Jourová also participated.

25 November is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. To mark the occasion, CU organized a webinar entitled Domestic Violence: Myth vs. Reality, and it was lit red.

CU concluded a memorandum with the Paraple Centre, in which both parties agreed to cooperate to improve conditions for the disabled in the Czech Republic.

On **November 11, 2021** CU organized the **1st edition** of the Day in a Wheelchair event, where students and others could see what it's like to move around the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Humanities in a wheelchair.

100,000 CZK: Maximum amount of the scholarship offered by CU to students who found themselves in acute social distress as a result of the devastating tornado.

1 million CZK was raised through auxiliary activities was donated by the University and the faculties to a transparent account set up by the South Moravian Region, which had been affected by the tornado.

In **March and April 2021** students, employees and graduates participated in a call for action on blood and anti-Covid plasma donation.

On **12 June 2021** the 3rd edition of the RUN for HELP charity run was held in support of disabled fellow citizens. CU became one of the event partners and also donated **10% of the day's proceeds** from the University food truck to the transparent account of the No foot, no stress association.



The Albertov campus gets zoning decision; construction can begin!

The Albertov Campus is one of the largest investment projects in the modern history of Charles University. The aim of the project is to build a state-of-the-art research and educational centre in Prague, with facilities for three faculties – Mathematics and Physics, Science and the First Faculty of Medicine. In 2021, the University reached another important milestone, as it obtained a zoning decision for the project – a key document for starting the construction of the campus.

The University has been working intensively on the Albertov Campus project for several years, and fortunately the work was not stopped by the coronavirus pandemic. Completion of the project documentation and the obtaining of all necessary approvals and permissions became a priority for 2021.

In the middle of the year, 25 June 2021, we were able to celebrate a great success and the reaching of a further milestone in the preparation of the project as a whole, when we obtained the final zoning decision for the second part of the Albertov Campus project, the Globcentrum building. All of this was only possible thanks to the many months of effort by the project managers and implementation team and hundreds of hours of intensive negotiations with all the relevant public authorities. During this process, those parts of the project documentation that were nearly complete frequently had to be modified so that the location of both buildings in the Albertov locality did not jeopardize the famous "genius loci". But it all turned out well and the decision went in our favour!

The main topic in subsequent months was the search for resources to finance this costly, significant investment.

Both buildings – the Biocentrum and Globcentrum – are designed to be places of outstanding places of higher education that provide all levels of qualification, and are intended to create an inspiring environment and appropriate conditions for students and scholars not only from all over the Czech Republic, but also from abroad. This must be matched not only by the functionality of the buildings themselves, but also by state-of-the-art instrumentation of the highest quality.

Unfortunately, the global coronavirus crisis has affected our planned budgets. The pandemic caused a sharp increase

in the prices of materials and services, increasing in turn the expected costs of construction and equipment, which reached 8 billion CZK.

For this reason, further rounds of negotiations were held in order to secure the necessary funds, both through subsidies from the state budget, the National Investment Plan and operational programmes, and, above all, from the Czech Recovery and Resilience Plan (NPO).

While the processing and discussion of the project documentation was a long-term task, negotiations on financing could be compared to a marathon. However, I firmly believe that our patient negotiations will be successful and we will reach a further milestone in the form of the complete financing of both the Biocentrum and the Globcentrum.

Maybe it will be a nice gift for Christmas 2022, just as the finished project documentation was for us this year. A gift that has been in the works and in preparation for almost four years, and which made all of us working on the Albertov Campus project very happy.



Ing. Jiřina Kurzová,

Head of the Strategic Investment Projects Department, Bur-sar's Office



May 2021: The Albertov campus obtains all the necessary zoning decisions.

3 faculties will use the premises at Albertov: the First Faculty of Medicine, the Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics.

2025: The campus should be completed in this year, and open to students from the 2026/2027 winter semester.

7.8 billion CZK: Total out of the overall investment that will be paid from European subsidies.

Monday, 18 October 2021: Foundation stone of the campus is laid.

Other major investment projects include the second stage of construction of the University Medical Centre of the Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen (UniMec) and the construction of the MEPHARED 2 teaching centre in Hradec Králové.

Evaluation at Charles University: research activities and new degree programmes

During 2021 the University's research activity underwent an international evaluation aimed at assessing the quality and effectiveness of and possibilities for improving the University's work. CU launched the evaluation on its own initiative, and it is also the first Czech university to carry out such a comprehensive and independent evaluation. Another area of evaluation was also addressed by the CU Internal Evaluation Board. It assessed the quality of the new degree programmes and took decisions on which of these would be granted accreditation.

Fortunately, 2021 saw the end of the extremely intensive, even hectic, period when the CU Internal Evaluation Board (IEB) had to reaccredit all degree programmes following the granting of institutional accreditation. While approving new degree programmes or modifying existing ones remains a permanent task of the BIE, in 2021 it no longer had to deal with hundreds of applications, but only a few dozen.

This allowed the Board to concentrate on setting up and implementing a system for the continuous evaluation of degree programmes. We based our work on the principle that every degree programme should undergo comprehensive evaluation at least once during the period for which it is granted accreditation. The working group, together with staff from the Department for the Quality of Education and Accreditation, created a methodology and a structured form for the evaluation report prepared by programme guarantors. This is, at all times, based on key information on the implementation of the programme as documented within the study information system and other sources. The guarantor's evaluation report is uploaded into the information system and the multi-stage process of its discussion (reviewer, BIE expert panel, BIE plenary) takes the form of gradual commentary and evaluation.

Since spring 2021, a pilot verification of the proposed system, tools and procedures took place for the seventeen undergraduate degree programmes selected. The selection included all types of undergraduate degree programmes (bachelor's, master's and post-bachelor study programmes) and all fields of education of fields of education, as represented by the four

panels of the BIE. In addition to modifying the methodology, forms and specific steps in the evaluation process, this pilot validation produced a number of key findings. Above all, the most valuable element in the entire evaluation is the direct conversation between the guarantor and panel members on the critical report as commented on by experts. However, on the other hand, this method of discussion is very time-consuming, with high demands on staff. The Board is therefore considering how to simplify the whole process in order to make it as efficient as possible while maintaining all quality assurance and development requirements.

Above all, fundamental questions continue to be raised, as in any serious evaluation and critical reflection on its results. These questions concern, in particular, whether the set principles, criteria and evaluation procedures really serve to improve and develop in a more substantive way, or whether they are guided by other interests – for example, the intention to create the image of a successful and effective internal evaluation.



prof. ThDr. Martin Prudký,

Member of the CU Internal Evaluation Board and Chair of its Panel on the Humanities, Education and Science, Vice-Dean for Science and Postgraduate Studies, CU Protestant Theological Faculty

Internal evaluation of degree programmes

The internal evaluation of degree programmes forms part of CU's system for internal evaluation and quality assurance.

May 2021: pilot evaluation of selected undergraduate degree programmes at CU is initiated.

Spring 2022: end of pilot evaluation.

Over 600 degree programmes at the University will be subject to continuous evaluation.

Facts about the topic: Internal evaluation

For the first time, a Czech university attempted, on its own initiative, this type of comprehensive, critical and, to the greatest extent possible, independent evaluation of its scientific activities with the help of an international panel.

2014–2018: Period for which the evaluation assessed the results of research.

2 years: A group of mainly international experts dealt with the evaluation of CU for approximately this length of time.

700 reviewers: More than 700 assessors evaluated selected results.

4 expert panels: The individual research fields and disciplines were divided into expert panels for the humanities, social sciences, science and medical and health sciences.

40 reports: The output was more than 40 separate reports, including a comprehensive Executive Summary.

2024: A further round of evaluation, focusing on the period 2019–2023, will begin in this year.



Women in science. A seminar full of pressing questions

Charles University held a seminar on the situation and standing of women in the contemporary Czech scientific and research environment in the Patriots' Hall of the Karolinum on Thursday, 25 November 2021. The seminar had been originally planned for spring 2019, but did not take place until 2021 due to the pandemic. It had originally been organized to mark the 80th anniversary of the appointment of Milada Paulová as a full professor for the history of the Slavic nations at the CU Faculty of Arts. Milada Paulová became not only the first professor at Charles University, but also the first woman to achieve this highest academic rank in Czechoslovakia.

The Women in Science all-day seminar finally took place in hybrid form. Both the positive and negative aspects of careers in science were presented through the eyes of female scientists, both junior and internationally established. Despite the specific interdisciplinary aspects, a set of shortcomings that complicate the active involvement of women in both scientific and managerial work was clearly identified. This is undoubtedly a shame, and not only for the women who are directly affected. And what problems turned out to be of fundamental importance? Insufficient family support, the establishment of functional support mechanisms at institutional level, including flexible career rules, and ensuring sufficient financing.

However, it is much more complicated for me to interpret the subset of "soft" problems related to gender stereotypes. For example, at our amazing faculty, the percentage of the "fairer sex" within the academic community is the lowest within the university, and yet this does not limit us in any fundamental way. On the other hand, a variety of issues related to balancing family and professional life are being increasingly raised in the Matfyz community. However, I have not been able to demonstrate a correlation between the number of young female academics and the frequency of these questions; we still lack reliable data.

However, the topic took on a completely different dimension due to the renormalisation of our lives during the COVID-19 pandemic. While we at CU handled the implementation of the new order brilliantly, it didn't always work in a home environ-

ment. The typical domestic issues faced by female researchers with children were compressed into a minimal area with the maximum density of family members. Yes, we all had to adapt, but not everyone accepted this.

I was told that, instead of immersing ourselves in the injustice of the world, we (women in science) should support our students and teams in coping with the situation together. I got put in my place, summed up in the thesis: You're spoiling it for other women because you're strong. While the second part of the statement is a matter of opinion, I do not agree that strong women (= those who have been able to build a career) are spoiling anything for other women. Don't you think it's a negative label for the efforts of all our colleagues, and not just during the pandemic? Those who, in addition to the excellent work they perform, also act as role models for their potential successors?

One of the ideas that resonated in the seminar is: name the obstacles, talk about them and show that there is another way – be an example.



Prof. RNDr. Jana Kalbáčová Vejpravová, Ph.D., professor at the Department of Condensed Matter Physics at the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics of Charles University



Women in Science

The Women in Science seminar took place at the Karolinum on 25 November 2021. It dealt with, among other things, the conditions and standing of female scientists in the Czech academic environment. It also highlighted the greatest obstacles and stereotypes faced by women.

It also recalled the inspiring women who had achieved significant successes in science while leading a full, successful private and family life.

5 women were part of the Rector's Board of Professor Tomáš Zima.

4 female deans

Number of female professors: 92,
associate professors: 240

Number of newly appointed
professors in 2021: 7

Other events with a societal impact included, for example, the "Saint Ludmila – Women in the Christianization of Central Europe" international conference, European Languages Day at the Hybernská Campus, the 6th Prague Populism Conference entitled "What has the pandemic changed?" and the Transdisciplinary Conference in honour of Ivan M. Havel.

Vzdělávání21

The Vzdělávání21 (Education21) think-tank (TT) is a professional platform run by the University with the goal of systematically improving the education system, strengthening modern pedagogical approaches and methods, and cultivating public debates on topics affecting education in the Czech Republic.

20: Number of TT members.

In **2021** the TT issued **4** expert opinions, co-organized **2** conferences and prepared 1 public discussion.

On 24 November 2021, the TT presented a proposal to **modify school-leaving (*maturita*) exams.**

In February 2021 it published an analysis entitled **Risk Factors in the School Environment in the spread of COVID-19.**

Czech Republic! What Next?

Czech Republic! What Next? is a discussion platform organized by the University to fulfil its third role.

It aims to involve scholars and University personalities in public debates aimed at addressing the challenges faced by society.

5 podcasts, 3 webinars and **1 conference** were organized as part of the platform in 2021.

Topics for 2021: What will the new academic and school year be like?; Science in action; Covid is back. What Next?; What lies are told about Covid-19?; Back to fitness: How to go about it after a one-year pandemic?; Domestic violence: Myths vs. reality; A year with Covid-19. What Next?

35: Number of guest experts and academics who participated in the project in 2021.

The University honoured prominent persons in science and supported top research projects

Since 2017 Charles University has been honouring prominent persons in science with funding provided through the Donatio Universitatis Carolinæ award. This is accompanied by financial support for research in the amount of one million crowns. In 2021 the Donatio was awarded for the fifth time and the University honoured a total of five prominent persons in science.

Charles University is not just an educational and research institution. It is, above all, a highly complex organism, encompassing many different disciplines in all areas of human knowledge. If such an organism is to be functional and alive, which is not at all easy due to the disparities between the fields and their specializations, it must develop not only internal communication, but above all diverse types of feedback in order to inform itself about its condition. This is all the more necessary because it cannot separate itself from its environment, whose challenges it must recognize and be able to respond adequately to them – even through internal transformation. None of this is easy, all the more so because the contribution and reach of what is created at the University is not easy to measure: a seemingly small field can be unique precisely because of its irreplaceability, and its importance often lies in the tradition it develops (Egyptology is one example in this respect that everyone can think of, but there are certainly more of them at every faculty). Therefore, the fact that the University is an important part of the general culture cannot be ignored.

My point is that what gives viability to this organism, above all, is cooperation and the ability to open up beyond the boundaries of the disciplines, even beyond the discussion of these boundaries, areas that have not yet been discovered and can be called terra still incognita – whether it's because a new situation has broken through this seclusion (proof of this is science's response to the Covid pandemic) or because teams made up of not settlers, but nomads – those who have decided to build bridges rather than fortresses – have spontaneously come into being and decided to work together.

This is not always visible, but all the more important, and this is why we should keep reminding ourselves of this indispensable part of life at the University. From my own experience, I can confirm how good it is that Charles University seeks ways to promote such contact across boundaries. For example, the Donatio Universitatis Carolinæ is, as I had the opportunity to find out, a highly flexible means for the university organism to overcome its internal limitations in a way that is not rigidly institutional, because it allows the implementation of such projects whose subject is something that tacitly expects its researcher to be hidden under the trends and tendencies of the so-called objective spirit. And we know from the history of science how important it is to ask questions other than the ones we suspect the answers to. It is very desirable to be able to create a group of experts of different backgrounds who come together not to explore what already exists, but to discover something that is currently difficult to define because it has not yet arrived.

It is good that Charles University is able to place its trust in its researchers and their experience.



Prof. Dr. Miroslav Petříček,

Institute of Philosophy and Religion, Faculty of Arts of Charles University



5 prominent scholars of CU received the University's prestigious Donatio Universitatis Carolinæ on 7 April 2021: prof. MUDr. Libor Vítek, Ph.D., MBA, (First Faculty of Medicine), prof. Dr. Miroslav Petříček, (Faculty of Arts), prof. RNDr. Petr Nachtigall, Ph.D., (Faculty of Science), prof. RNDr. Viktor Žárský, CSc., (Faculty of Science) and Associate Prof. MUDr. Iva Holmerová, Ph.D., (Faculty of Humanities).

1 million CZK to support research is associated with the Charles University Prize, which since 2017 has been awarded on the occasion of Education Day on 7 April.

Examples of prizes won by representatives of Charles University in 2021: **3** ERC CZ grants, **3** Česká hlava 2021 prizes, **3** prizes of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports.

In 2021 **64 prominent scholars** received awards from the CU Research Board.

CU was the first university in the Czech Republic to launch the modern Alma library platform

The Library of Charles University was the first Czech library to implement the modern Alma (ExLibris) library platform, making both paper and electronic resources available in the innovative UKAŽ system. The academic community of CU responded to this change positively and there was no significant service outage. The number of readers and interest in e-resources is increasing. The project has provoked a high degree of interest among Czech libraries.

This is, in summary, the great adventure embarked upon by nearly four hundred CU librarians with the intensive support of management, faculties and the entire academic community of CU.

The main purpose of the existence of libraries is to provide resources for study and research. Services must flow like water. When the information resources are of sufficient quality, quantity and balanced composition, there is no great discussion. Once this balance disrupted, it is a signal that something is wrong. We were in a situation such as this in 2018, when CU had to decide which e-databases to subscribe to for a five-year period. Discussions on e-resources indicated that the UKAŽ system of the time had reached its limit and was not a viable option to the more than 3 million books and many hundreds of thousands of articles in the library. It was often said in discussions that things worked better abroad.

We librarians knew that there are better library systems abroad than those available in the Czech Republic were in use. Before preparing the tender documentation, we gathered experience from abroad (Berlin, Leuven). The ExLibris' Alma system was selected and its implementation began. The fact that e-meetings became common in 2020, and both ordinary and crisis meetings were held in this way, also contributed to the success of the project.

Throughout the whole period, the Central Library team relied on the everyday support and assistance of faculty librar-

ies, faculty management and University management. CU librarians underwent several days of training in the summer. With bated breath, we made the system available in September 2021. Will it work? We saw the change as an evolutionary one; the graphics and the name of the new search engine, UKAŽ, remained the same. However, our fears were not realized and the books began to flow back to readers. Nevertheless, our readers noticed the change and we noticed that their numbers were increasing (with a year-on-year increase of almost 7,000). And the interest in e-documents, too, is growing. When searching for a book, you can also see the e-version produced together with it.

We can only hope that Czech e-books will enjoy the same level of accessibility as their foreign-language counterparts. But that's another story – one whose protagonists are not only librarians, but also includes Czech publishers and authors.



PhDr. Radka Římanová, Ph.D.,
Director of the Central Library

UKAŽ

1 September 2021: Launch of the new Alma library platform and central search engine.

UKAŽ allows simultaneous searches for printed, digitalized and electronic information resources available at Charles University.

139 commercial and 66 open access databases are available to readers at CU libraries. These represent a total of **205 databases** of electronic information resources. The library fund of Charles University contains **3,347,780 units**, including **2,322,861 printed books**, **393,899 bound editions of magazines**, **281,779 individual journals**, **100,072 maps** and **508 three-dimensional models**, as well as **83 e-book readers**, **209 laptops** and **310 locker keys**, which are also loaned out within the library system.

335,818: number of searches in UKAŽ from the beginning of September to the end of 2021.

36,952: Number of people who used the search engine from September to the end of 2021.

First: CU is the first Czech university to launch something like this.

Na Karlovku

615 degree programmes at 17 faculties are offered to applicants for studies by Charles University. To help applicants orientate themselves better, in November 2021 Charles University launched the new website www.nakarlovku.cz.

Within the Na Karlovku tour, CU presented the options for study at the information day at the Faculty of Law in November – both live at the online. The next stop was at the autumn Gaudeamus trade fair in Brno.

A respectable number

0% alcohol in the new "pi"vo Slušné číslo beer, which the University presented in November.

The beer was created in cooperation with the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics and the Research Institute of Brewing and Malting. The beer is produced by the Ferdinand Brewery.

It is sold in CU's canteens and buffets.

It is a follow-up to the Pěkný číslo beer, with an alcohol content of **6.28 % ABV**.





2021 AT THE FACULTIES

“What was the main event of 2021 at your faculty?”



Catholic Theological Faculty

Prof. PhLic. Vojtěch Novotný, Th.D., Dean

I would like to highlight three events at KTF UK in 2021. The Second Scholasticism – Analytical Metaphysics – Christian Apologetics conference in honour of Czech philosopher Stanislav Soušedík, with the participation of many international researchers. Furthermore, the election of the Academic Senate and the candidate for the post of Dean. The Senate also entrusted me with a mandate for the period 2022–2026, and its choice was confirmed by the Holy See and, through appointment, also by the Rector of Charles University. KTF UK profiles itself as a ‘faculty of personalities’. In this context, the passing of the philosopher Ludvík Armbruster (1928–2021), a prominent person in intercultural dialogue and the Emeritus Dean of KTF UK, was a significant event for us.



Protestant Theological Faculty

Associate Prof. Jiří Mrázek, Th.D., Dean

In August and September 2021 ETF UK again participated in the Tel Moca Excavation project near Jerusalem in Israel. After a one-year break due to Covid, we were again involved in the excavation of a temple dating to the Iron Age (10th–6th centuries BC). The temple is the only one of its kind uncovered in Israel so far, and therefore attracts a lot of interest from global media. Its architectural layout resembles Solomon’s Temple (also called the First Temple), which is known from a biblical description but which has never been found. Traditionally, the Temple Mount is considered as the place where it was located, but this location is not the only one possible, as Associate Prof. Filip Čapek, head of the Czech team in Tel Moca, tries to explain to both the lay public and experts. The results so far were presented in December at a CU press conference also attended by Rector Tomáš Zima.



Hussite Theological Faculty

Associate Prof. ThDr. Kamila Veverková, Ph.D., Dean

In 2021, academic life at the Hussite Theological Faculty unfolded in the shadow of the pandemic. Many activities were transferred into a virtual environment. The faculty received accreditation for the new doctoral degree programme entitled Early Christian Studies. The programme is interdisciplinary and its implementation involves international researchers who are engaged in long-term cooperation with the faculty. In the second half of the year, following several years of negotiations with the owner of the building, the construction of two lifts was started, one in the left wing of the building and one in the main part. This project is an important one for us, as it will greatly improve academic life at the faculty. Last but not least, we constructed a faculty chapel, which we have been striving for a long time.



Faculty of Law

Prof. JUDr. Jan Kuklík, DrSc., Dean

2021 continued to be affected by Covid-19. We used hybrid teaching to support recorded lectures and other digital aids that can be used as a supplement even after students have returned to face-to-face tuition. We made full use of the faculty recording studio that was installed on the fourth floor of our building. In cooperation with the Paraple Centre, we built a wheelchair ramp in record time in order to improve wheelchair access to the faculty. Autumn was marked by the election of the dean for the period 2022–2026. Although only one candidate could win, four interesting programmes for the future development of the faculty were presented. I will follow with interest what the new dean, Prof. Radim Boháč will be able to implement, and I wish him luck!



First Faculty of Medicine

Prof. MUDr. Martin Vokurka, CSc., Dean

The First Faculty of Medicine and the General University Hospital in Prague jointly founded the Clinic of Palliative Medicine. This was the event of the year for three reasons. The first of these is the medically significant effect of palliative care for patients with severe illness. Symptoms are alleviated, patients experience less anxiety and depression, report a better quality of life, and the social and spiritual aspects are also important. The second is the scientific dimension of the field. The clinic has produced data and research results that allowed it to make an immediate contribution to a prestigious international study on organ donation following irreversible cardiac arrest. The third is the breaking of the narrow perception of the field. Students will now, throughout the entirety of their studies, be taught communication with the patient, including the communication of bad news. This will link the teaching of medical skills with the ability of future doctors to better talk to patients, even in serious situations.



Second Faculty of Medicine

Prof. MUDr. Vladimír Komárek, CSc., Dean

The most important events of the past year include the election of the new Dean, Professor Marek Babjuk, and the final confirmation of funding for the construction of a multifunctional faculty building (MFB), which will include the Dean's office, a simulation centre and premises for doctoral students' research work. The good news came from our students and graduates. One team of medics (Klára Westfálová, Jan Flugler and Dan Kysilka) won first place at the Rally Rejvíz, graduates from the Medici Boni group (Jakub Hurych, Roman Štícha, Ivana Hanzalová, Ludmila Křížová and Kateřina Tichá) received the Josef Hlávka Award for scientific literature, one 6th-year student, Ondřej Blecha received the Special Prize of the Rector of Charles University for exemplary civic bravery and dedication, and one of our graduates, doctor of the Paediatric Clinic MUDr. Vít Neuman, Ph.D., received the Albert Schweitzer Prize in medicine.



Third Faculty of Medicine

Prof. MUDr. Petr Wídimský, DrSc., Dean

The pandemic taught us to think creatively about how to continue academic work without increasing the risk of coronavirus transmission. In a situation where it was not possible to sit in lecture halls we created an “outdoor lecture hall” behind Faculty Building B. In addition to teaching, we also used it to practice first aid, open-air cardiology and a number of other teaching activities. Another important event was Student May organized by Trimed in order to encourage students to take part in activities. This took the form of a series of online challenges shared through social media. All of them were designed as competitions, with the five most interesting entries selected at the end. They involved more than a hundred students.



Medical Faculty in Pilsen

Prof. MUDr. Jindřich Fínek, Ph.D., MHA, Dean

In 2021, the Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen, with the help of Charles University, continued work to complete its campus with the construction of the UniMeC II building, worth a total 1.8 billion CZK. On top of that, this year we all have something to be proud of. At this time, our students had to deal with distance learning, assisting in hospitals and separation from their colleagues, having lost the most valuable thing – much more valuable than their acquired knowledge – student life and social contacts. They continue to study and are again offering their help to hospitals. Many of us were not able to take a fraction of their holidays while working in the hospital, we are tired and exhausted, but we carry on treating people and teaching. I would like to express my sincere gratitude and admiration for all the help they have provided.



Faculty of Medicine in Hradec Králové

Prof. MUDr. Jiří Mandák, Ph.D., Dean



Faculty of Pharmacy in Hradec Králové

Prof. PharmDr. Tomáš Šimůnek, Ph.D., Dean

The most important events of 2021 for both faculties in Hradec Králové undoubtedly include obtaining the final zoning decision for the project to complete the Charles University campus in Hradec Králové (the MEPHARED 2 programme). As a result of the decision, in July our faculties were able to submit an application for a subsidy for the new construction of the Central Building to the national programme of the Ministry of Education. At the same time, the Building was included among the projects in the Czech Republic's Recovery and Resilience Plan. The application for a building permit was submitted in September and we expect to receive approval in the first quarter of 2022. 2021 therefore brought significant progress in our faculties' long-standing dream of building modern facilities for medical and pharmaceutical education and research.



Faculty of Arts

Associate Prof. PhDr. Michal Pullmann, Ph.D., Dean

The most important events of 2021 at the Faculty of Arts of Charles University included the university-wide evaluation of research. The evaluation gave clear confirmation that, despite its long-term underfunding, the Faculty of Arts of Charles University rates very highly in terms of research, even in an international comparison. And the excellence of the research performed by our academics is also evidenced by their individual achievements, such as the granting of support in the form of the University's Donatio to the philosopher Prof. Miroslav Petříček, or the latest major discovery by our Egyptologists – the largest deposit of mummies ever discovered in Egypt. The student papers by the scholar of English studies, Františka Schormová, and the classical archaeologist Monika Matoušková were also of exceptional quality, which we recognized through the faculty's Jan Palach Award.



Faculty of Science

Prof. RNDr. Jiří Zima, CSc., Dean

The answer to the question posed is not a simple one. I don't want to bring up the virus again, but I have to, as it impacted many activities and events at the faculty. In some areas it taught us new things, in others it indiscriminately forced us to do others and cancel some events, such as the faculty ball. The summer was relatively trouble-free, and only the experts knew that it wasn't over yet. In the autumn, the academic community's attention was focused on the election of the new rector. I must also mention the laying of the foundation stone of the Albertov Campus, which took place on 18 October 2021. While I am aware that the diggers haven't yet broken ground for the two buildings, the inclusion of the Albertov Campus in the The Czech Republic's Recovery and Resilience Plan means a lot to us at Albertov.



Faculty of Mathematics and Physics

Associate Prof. RNDr. Mirko Rokyta, CSc., Dean

From the point of view of Matfyz, I consider it of symbolic importance that, after all the delays caused by the pandemic, in-person teaching in the IMPACT pavilion started in earnest, albeit not until the beginning of the 2021/2022 academic year. We fully utilized its capacity for first-year courses, the number of which increased significantly, especially in bachelor's programmes in IT. I also appreciate the fact that, in a University survey, 92% of faculty students rated distance learning with a mark of 1 or 2, and the first three synonyms for "Matfyz during coronavirus" were the words Zoom, helpfulness of teachers and difficulty. This clearly positive assessment is primarily due to the work of all teachers and they can definitely be included among the events of the year.



Faculty of Education

Prof. PaedDr. Michal Nedělka, Dr., Dean

The event of the year was definitely the traditional Advent concert, which we were able to organize again after the pause due to Covid. The concert, led by conductor Associate Prof. Marek Valášek, included selected parts of the Czech Christmas Mass by Jakub Jan Ryba and the Christmas cycle by Luboš Fišer. At a ceremony before the concert, I bestowed the faculty medal for lifetime achievement on nine nominees.



Faculty of Social Sciences

Associate Prof. PhDr. Alice Němcová Tejkalová, Ph.D.,
Dean

Despite the restrictions, not much happened at our faculty in 2021. However, and this may sound trivial, and I also assume that I will not be the only one who writes this, for most of us, whether students or teachers, the most important event was when we were able to start the 2021/2022 academic year in the classic way, i.e. offline. To be able to physically meet again in lectures and, above all, seminars, to have coffee with friends, to share life's joys and sorrows in a real conversation. Seeing our buildings come back to life after such a long time really was a great experience and a strengthening impulse in our determination to overcome all the inconveniences of the pandemic and move on.



Faculty of Humanities

Ing. arch. Mgr. Marie Pětová, Ph.D., Dean

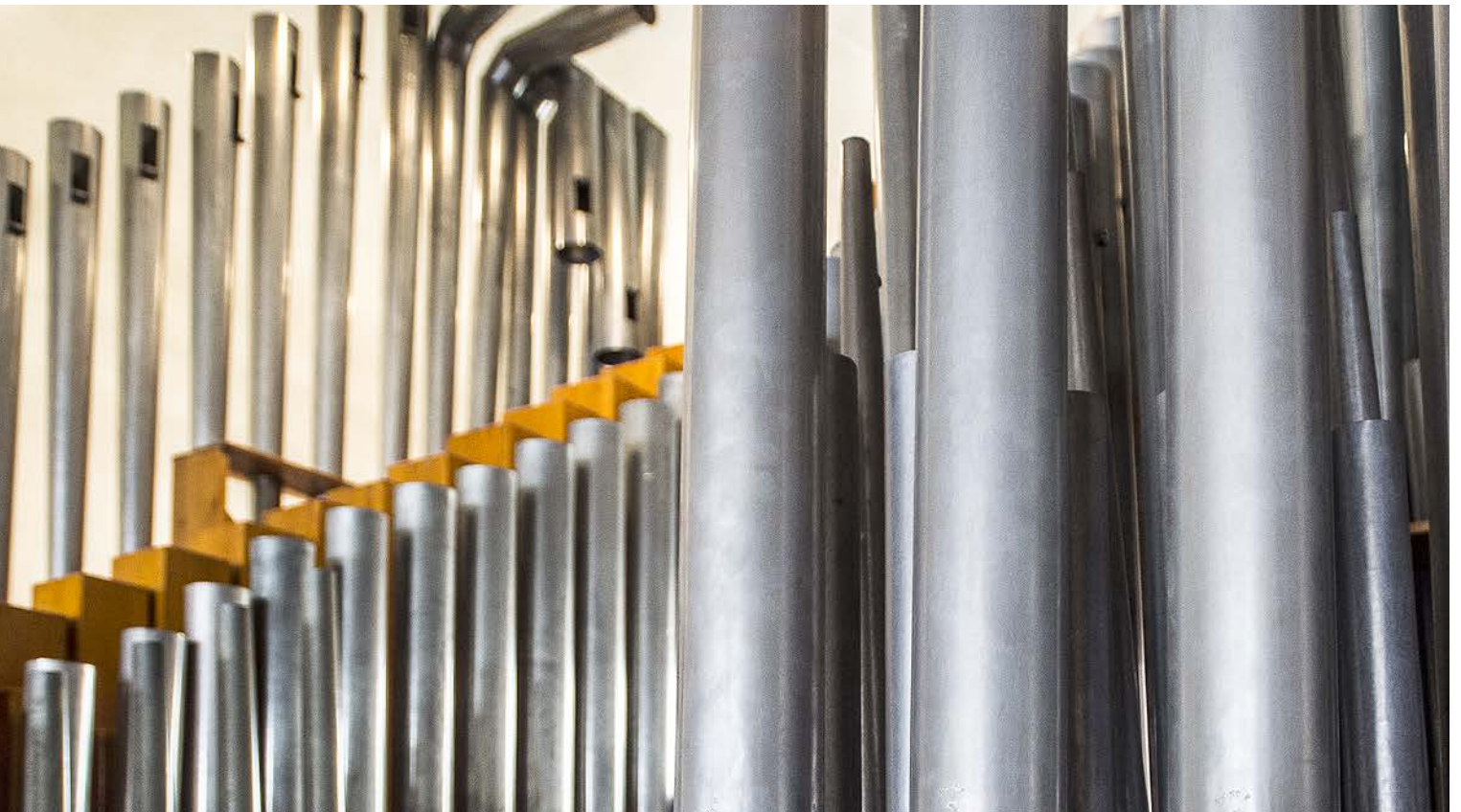
I admit that, from the perspective of FHS, the first thing that springs to mind is a sad event: in 2021 Professor Jan Sokol, the founder and first dean of our faculty, passed away. However, the genre of Annual Report calls for some more optimistic events. In this category, the most important event was undoubtedly the fact that in the winter semester we were finally able to start in-person teaching at the faculty's new premises, which we had opened back in 2020, but had to do without students for a year due to the anti-Covid measures. The new building then scored successes in two competitions – it made it to the final of the Czech Architecture Awards and won the Main Prize in the Grand Prix of Architects competition. I was also pleased by the growing interest in study at our faculty.



Faculty of Physical Education and Sport

Associate Prof. MUDr. Eva Kohlíková, CSc.,
Dean

2021 was the election year. In September, the dean of the Faculty was elected. The new dean, with a term of office from 1 February 2022 to 31 January 2026, is Associate Prof. PhDr. Miroslav Petr, Ph.D. Preparations were also made for elections to the Academic Senate of FTVS UK. In 2021 the Faculty had to deal with the effects of Covid-19 in all areas of its activity. In the meantime, we were able to organize several events for the general and sporting public. Regarding the modernization of the Faculty's teaching and sports facilities, the construction of a pressurized hall was completed and two new outdoor beach volleyball courts were built.



2021 IN NUMBERS



total
8,634
employees

academic positions	3,971.2
research positions	1,099.0
other positions	3,564.1
female	4,565.7
male	4,068.5
foreign nationals in academic and research positions	704.6

total
50,918
students

bachelor's degree programmes	19,306
master's study programmes	15,227
post-bachelor study programmes	9,675
doctoral study programmes	6,710
female	31,502
male	19,416
international students	10,811
students with specific needs	830
students involved in student research projects	6,084
students who have completed an internship abroad	1,840

total
876
degree programmes

education and training	111
arts and humanities	211
social sciences, journalism, information sciences	131
law and administration	22
natural sciences, mathematics, statistics	199
information and communication technologies	29
technically oriented fields	1
health and social care, care for a favourable environment	159
physical education and sport	13
foreign-language degree programmes	215

total
7,861
graduates

unemployment rate up to one year after graduation	2.2%
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Financial support for research from university programmes

TOTAL	2,165,498,333 Kč
development of scientific disciplines	1,580,368,000 Kč
excellent research groups	126,564,752 Kč
talented researchers	159,999,906 Kč
stays of junior academics	9,605,140 Kč
student research	288,960,535 Kč

266 position in QS ranking

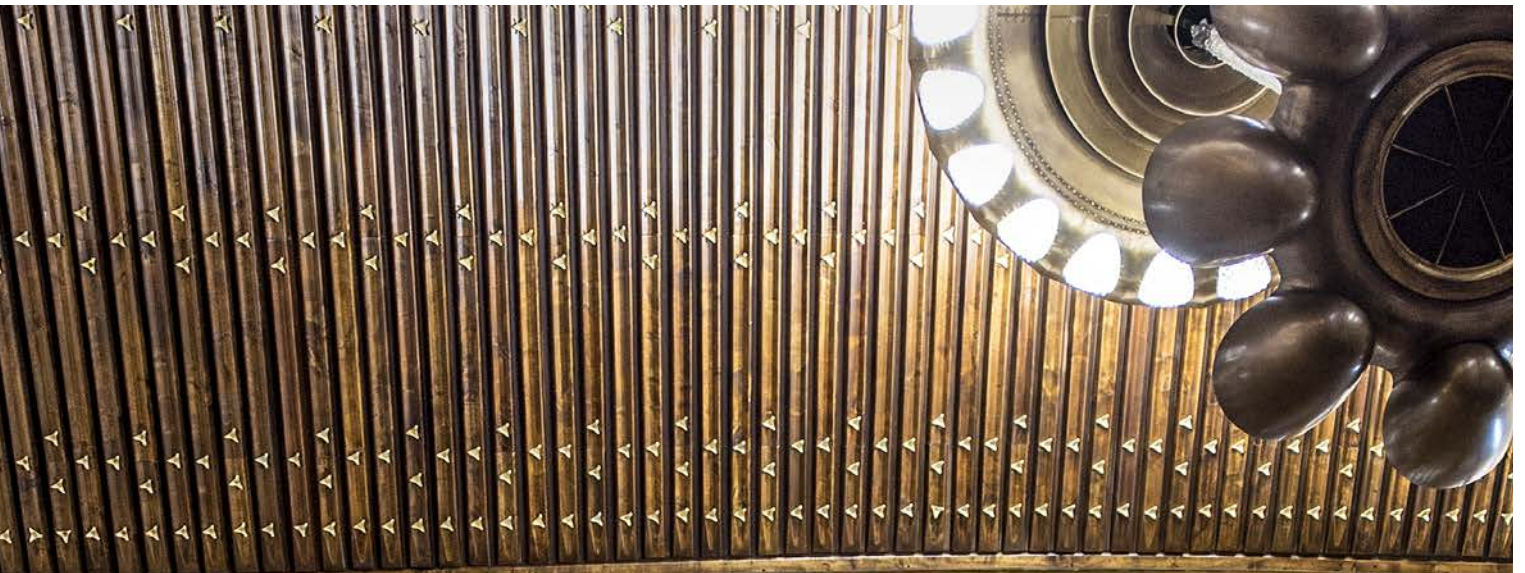
employability of graduates	ranked 181–190
anatomy and physiology	ranked 51–100
English language and literature	ranked 151–200
biological sciences	ranked 201–250
economics and econometrics	ranked 151–200
pharmacy and pharmacology	ranked 201–250
philosophy	ranked 151–200
physics and astronomy	ranked 201–250
geography	ranked 51–100
history	ranked 151–200
chemistry	ranked 251–300
computer science	ranked 251–300
medicine	ranked 201–250
linguistics	ranked 101–150
mathematics	ranked 151–200
material sciences	ranked 301–350
media and communications studies	ranked 151–200
modern languages	ranked 101–150
education and training	ranked 201–250
political science and international studies	ranked 101–150
law	ranked 251–300
sociology	ranked 151–200
statistics and operational research	ranked 201–220
environmental sciences	ranked 251–300

International research projects

projects supported by framework programmes	86
number of ERC grants	8

International cooperation

interuniversity agreements	208
THE 4EU+ ALLIANCE	6
Charles University	
University of Heidelberg	
Sorbonne University	
Copenhagen University	
University of Milan	
University of Warsaw	
STRATEGIC PARTNERS	3
University of Zurich	
Macquarie University	
University of St Andrews	
KEY PARTNERS	10
Leiden University	
University of Oxford	
University of Cambridge	
University of Edinburgh	
McGill University	
Hebrew University of Jerusalem	
University of Melbourne	
Jagiellonian University	
Universität zu Köln	
Universidad de Chile	



CU MANAGEMENT



CU Management

as of 31 December 2021



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CU MANAGEMENT



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member of the Rector's Board
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Lopatková, Ph.D.



member of the Rector's Board
Mgr. Michal Zima

How is Charles University perceived by Czech society?

81%

of Czechs confirm that universities have a positive impact on a person's success in society.

71%

of Czechs agree that Charles University offers the best higher education in the Czech Republic.

76%

of parents consider Charles University to be the best university in the Czech Republic.

83%

of Czechs agree that Charles University is respected abroad.

69%

of Czechs agree that Charles University is able to comprehensively transfer scientific discoveries into practice.

Annual Report on the Activities of Charles University for the year 2021

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