



UNIVERSITY OF LATVIA QUALITY ACTION POLICY

I. General regulations

1. The University of Latvia (hereinafter – UL) Quality Action Policy has been developed in accordance with the UL Quality Policy and aims to define quality management guidelines in the UL strategic development directions, ensuring interaction of studies and scientific performance at different levels of cooperation.

II. Quality management of scientific research

2. The objective of quality management of scientific research is to provide sustainable basic and applied studies, science-intensive services for industry and society, and to foster innovation that delivers internationally recognised results.
3. The main factors influencing the quality of research:
 - 3.1. trends and requirements in the development of science, industry and the socio-economic environment at international and local level;
 - 3.2. national specialization, science policy and research priorities;
 - 3.3. international recognition, appraisal by institutions and scientific community.
4. The quality of scientific research is ensured by:
 - 4.1. equal opportunities for scientific initiatives in all fields;
 - 4.2. the balanced development, interdisciplinarity and development of new research directions in fundamental and applied science and in all fields of research;
 - 4.3. publishing of internationally indexed UL scientific periodicals;
 - 4.4. science communication, raising the prestige of scientists and science;
 - 4.5. ensuring the academic and scientific staff renewal;
 - 4.6. supportive environment for knowledge and technology transfer;
 - 4.7. systematic management of intellectual property;
 - 4.8. vertical integration in research (student involvement in research).
5. The quality of scientific research is characterised by:
 - 5.1. the total number of scientific publications by the academic and scientific staff and their proportion in leading scientific journals, citation rates in the national and international

research environment, taking into account the features of the scientific field, as well as the proportion of publications produced in international cooperation;

- 5.2. the results of science commercialization, including intellectual property, and sustainable UL spin-offs founded by scientists and researchers;
- 5.3. the number of international scientific project applications and implemented projects;
- 5.4. the number of research contracts with industry;
- 5.5. the number of doctoral students and the time required to obtain a doctoral degree, as well as the proportion of academic staff with a doctoral degree;
- 5.6. the number of master's and doctoral level programme students involved in research.

III. Quality management of studies

6. The objective of quality management of studies at the UL is to implement excellent, research-based and internationally recognized studies that ensure competent, intelligent and internationally competitive practitioners, teaching staff and scientists for the development of economy and society.
7. The main factors influencing the quality of studies:
 - 7.1. local and international requirements, guidelines and development trends regulating the field of higher education;
 - 7.2. the present and future needs of prospective students, as well as the preferences and satisfaction of the current students;
 - 7.3. economic trends and requirements.
8. The quality of studies is ensured by:
 - 8.1. diversified, student-centered offer of study programmes in line with industry trends;
 - 8.2. higher education, based on practice and research, focused on student competence as a result of the teaching and learning process;
 - 8.3. interdisciplinary studies, project-based and innovation and technology-based learning methods;
 - 8.4. competent academic staff;
 - 8.5. modern study environment and efficient organization of the study process.
9. The quality of studies is characterised by:
 - 9.1. graduate employment;
 - 9.2. satisfaction level of current students;
 - 9.3. satisfaction level of graduates;
 - 9.4. satisfaction level of employers;
 - 9.5. the share of domestic and foreign students out of total number of students in Latvia;
 - 9.6. External quality assessment of the UL compared to equivalent higher education institutions;
 - 9.7. External quality assessment of UL study programmes and competitive advantages over equivalent study programmes of other higher education institutions;
 - 9.8. The number of students involved in research.

10. The UL complies with the requirements of the Republic of Latvia regulatory enactments regulating higher education, as well as with Standards and guidelines for quality assurance in the European Higher Education Area.

IV. Quality management of cooperation with stakeholders

11. The objective of quality management of cooperation with stakeholders is to support the transformation of the UL activities through sustainable and responsible cooperation.

12. In quality assurance, UL shall take into account the interests and needs of its stakeholders:

12.1. authorities and institutions of the Republic of Latvia and the European Union;

12.2. higher education quality assurance organizations and their unifying associations both in Latvia and internationally;

12.3. local and foreign UL students, student representations;

12.4. prospective students from Latvia and abroad;

12.5. parents (guardians) of prospective and current students, and patrons;

12.6. Latvian and foreign educational institutions, scientific institutes, networks, associations, academic organizations and consortia;

12.7. UL academic and general staff;

12.8. industry leaders at national and international level and industry associations;

12.9. UL graduates;

12.10. non-governmental organisations;

12.11. mass media;

12.12. general public.

13. The main areas of UL cooperation with stakeholders include: study programme design and implementation, staff and student mobility, research and development, commercialization of research results, lifelong learning and public education, entrepreneurship, management, and exchange of experience and innovation with international educational and scientific institutions.

14. The quality of cooperation with stakeholders is influenced by their present and future needs.

15. UL implements cooperation with stakeholders quality management within the framework of the University-Business Cooperation Ecosystem.

16. The quality of cooperation with stakeholders is characterised by:

16.1. cooperation as a part of mission;

16.2. providing structural instruments and approaches for initiating, developing and implementing cooperation;

16.3. concentrated and systematic activities with a significant impact on cooperation.

17. The quality of cooperation with stakeholders is characterized by the perception of internal and external stakeholders, as well as the reputation of the UL.