



MASARYK UNIVERSITY

University
with a Future





HISTORY

The university, bearing the name of first Czechoslovak president T. G. Masaryk, was founded on 28 January 1919 in Brno, a mere three months after the new nation declared independence. Its establishment marked the culmination of almost forty years of endeavour aimed at the formation of a second Czech university. Initially consisting of four founding faculties – Law, Medicine, Science and Arts – Masaryk University soon became an internationally recognized academic institution and a centre drawing students as well as first-rate teachers and research workers. Its progress was only stifled by the Nazi-organized shutdown of all Czech universities and the outbreak of WWII. The Communist regime – instituted in 1948 – did not favour independent development either: in 1950, the Faculty of Law was dissolved for almost two decades and the university as a whole was subject to ideological pressure and deprived of some of its best minds. From 1960 to 1989 the university bore the name of Jan Evangelista Purkyně – a significant 19th century Czech physiologist – and was only allowed to return to its original name in 1990.



HERITAGE

In the nine decades since its founding, Masaryk University succeeded in educating over 134,000 graduates, who have found application in many fields and in many countries around the world. Since its establishment, the university has been closely associated with a number of significant Czech scientists, thus quickly attaining a high degree of excellence in most fields of study.

The economist Karel Engliš and physiologist Edward Babák are some of the most notable figures of the first generation of teachers and scientists, while the following were active in subsequent decades: linguists such as Arne Novák, Bohuslav Havránek and Roman Jakobson, legal scholar František Weyr and mathematicians Matyáš Lerch, Eduard Čech and Otakar Borůvka. The name and work of Leoš Janáček, a renowned composer, are also inextricably linked to the university: in 1925, Janáček became the first person to receive an honorary doctorate from Masaryk University. The university remains loyal to its tradition of academic excellence to this day: at present, teaching as well as research at the individual faculties is still being carried out only by the best of experts. They have taken up the challenge of developing the legacy of their predecessors who had previously laid the foundations for high-quality instruction and research.



Roman Jakobson (1896–1982)



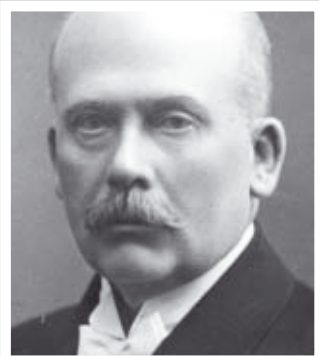
Tomáš Garrigue Masaryk (1850–1937)



Presentation of the Rector's Chain of Office in 1935 in Lány (from left: Karel Engliš, T. G. Masaryk, MU Rector Jan Krejčí, Chancellor Přemysl Šámal)



Karel Engliš (1880–1961)



Matyáš Lerch (1860–1922)

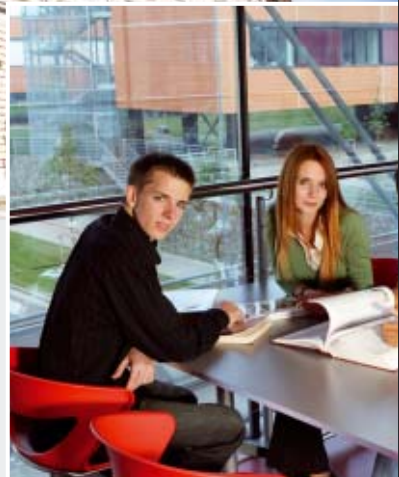


Edward Babák (1873–1926)



PRESENT

Today, Masaryk University consists of nine faculties and over 200 departments, institutes and clinics, encompassing a wide array of disciplines from the natural sciences to the humanities and including a broad range of research areas. It is the most sought-after institution of higher education in the Czech Republic, the largest university in Moravia, the second largest employer in the South Moravian region and a significant participant in the social and cultural life in the city of Brno.



MASARYK UNIVERSITY
FACULTIES:

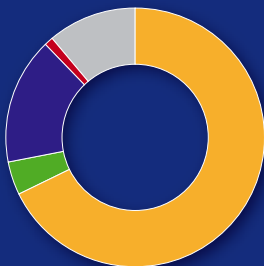
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Arts
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Economics
and Administration
- Faculty of Informatics
- Faculty of Social Studies
- Faculty of Sports Studies



STUDIES



Graduate Placement



- 68 % employed
- 4 % business
- 20 % employed and studying
- >1 % unemployed
- 7 % other (further study, maternity leave)

Source: Graduate Destination Survey 2007/2008
as carried out by MU in 2009

Modern Education

Masaryk University offers Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral accredited degree programmes available in both full-time and combined form. A structured study system enables students to combine many fields of study in Bachelor's degree programmes with Master's and doctoral degree programmes, the latter generally geared towards specializations in research. The university is currently educating over 43,000 students in a total of 1,200 fields of study.

In accordance with worldwide educational trends, lifelong learning at Masaryk University is growing ever more widespread and significant. The programmes – most of which are professionally oriented – draw over 20,000 applicants a year; the Faculty of Medicine is responsible for the majority of such vocational training programmes. Senior citizens may attend lectures at the so-called University of the Third Age.



Graduate Placement on the Job Market

Masaryk University graduates are extremely successful on the job market. Their unemployment rate is extremely low: a mere 1 % according to the latest survey. According to the results of regular surveys, half of all students find a job before finishing their studies, usually provided by their future employer. An overwhelming majority of all students find employment in their own field of study, thus demonstrating their own qualities as well as the high quality of their education.

Students with Special Needs

Masaryk University strives to provide students with sensory and other disabilities with full access to all accredited fields of study; in other words, providing equal opportunities for all. Study plans and materials are being modified to enable such students to fully engage in the education process and reach the same results as others. The number of students with special needs at the university corresponds to their numbers throughout the Czech Republic.

SCIENCE AND RESEARCH





Masaryk University counts itself among research-oriented institutions of higher education. Numerous successfully resolved projects from a wide range of fields form the best evidence in support of such a claim. Research at Masaryk University is hardly limited to the Czech Republic: the university operates e.g. the first Czech Antarctic station, where scientists focus on the long-term exploration of ice-free ecosystems.

The university is also successful in tenders for research and development project funding, achieving many excellent results. Experts from many different fields – the natural sciences, medicine and informatics as well as the humanities, social sciences, law and economics – have received worldwide recognition.

Masaryk University may be considered a pioneering institution with respect to the practical application of research results. A number of patent applications are submitted every year – most notably in the area of biotechnology, plasma technology and information and communication technology.

QUALITY

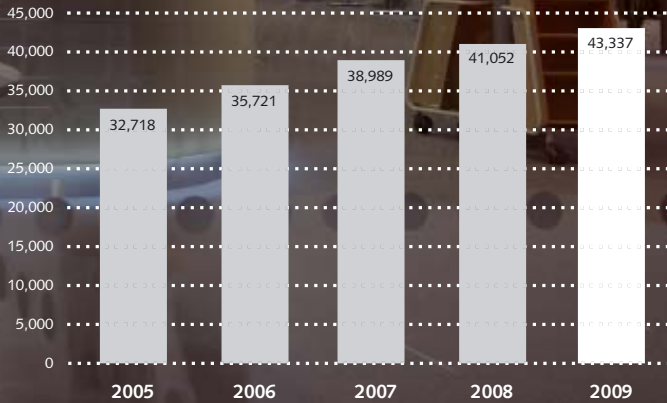
Thanks to its dynamic development, Masaryk University has ranked among the most prestigious educational institutions in Central Europe for a number of years. The university intensively cooperates with renowned international universities and research institutions as well as participating in distinguished international associations. Student exchanges at universities around the world are thus a matter of course, Masaryk University in turn hosts thousands of international students. Both students and academics regularly – and successfully – take part in scientific conferences and competitions.

The university may likewise be considered one of the most progressive higher education institutions with respect to the application of state-of-the-art information technology in both teaching and study administration. The Information System, facilitating study administration for students and teachers alike, has garnered a large number of international awards. Furthermore, MU employees and students have access to an extensive network of modern libraries, the University Computer Centre and various E-learning applications





Student Numbers at MU





DEVELOPMENT

Masaryk University is currently going through a stage of dynamic growth, accompanied by corresponding infrastructure development. This is being implemented under the *Development of the Material and Technical Base of Masaryk University programme*, which includes a sub-programme for campus construction and a second sub-programme for the renovation and modernization of existing buildings in downtown Brno. Further construction plans are being developed within the framework of European Structural Funds projects.

University Campus Bohunice

The central part of the development programme consists of a project unique in the context of Czech university education: the construction of a modern educational and research complex – the University Campus Bohunice. Budgeted at 5.1 billion CZK, the new campus grounds will comprise a total of 42,200 m² and are set to accommodate 5,000 students and 1,000 academic staff.



Renovation

An extensive renovation and modernization scheme focusing on existing buildings in the historical Brno downtown area was finalized in 2008. A significant number of the historical university buildings were renovated: e.g. the Morphology Centre on campus, the Faculty of Social Studies building, the entire Faculty of Science complex on Kotlářská Street and the lecture rooms at the Faculty of Informatics. The technical infrastructure of numerous buildings, lecture rooms, laboratories and similar interior spaces at all faculties was likewise renovated, while laboratory, computer room and library equipment underwent significant modernization.



UNIVERSITY CAMPUS BOHUNICE

The notion of constructing a campus had been discussed ever since the university's founding; the first studies and plans come from the 1920s. However, the concept was only implemented as late as 2002. The construction of an educational and research facility commenced in 2004 and the Integrated Laboratories for Biomedical Technologies building, i.e. the initial stage of campus construction, was finalized in the following year. A second stage ensued with the construction of the Academic Teaching and Research Complex. From 2006 to 2009, the campus saw the addition of new computer rooms, laboratories and other units designated for the Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Science; the Faculty of Sports Studies only moved into the new complex in 2009.



The construction of a new assembly hall, dean's offices and several other buildings is also being finalized in connection with the development programme. Planned development likewise includes the construction of accommodation facilities for both students and employees, catering and business enterprises, and facilities for sports and socialising. The grounds will eventually be supplemented with a new botanical garden of the Faculty of Science. On completion, the new campus will hardly be isolated from life in the city – a brand new quarter in its immediate vicinity will provide the necessary infrastructure, even a shopping centre complete with an academic canteen.





MASARYK UNIVERSITY

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www.muni.cz

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Veveří 70, 611 80 Brno

■ **Faculty of Medicine***
Komenského nám. 2,
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■ **Faculty of Science**
Kotlářská 2, 611 37 Brno

■ **Faculty of Arts**
Arna Nováka 1, 660 88 Brno

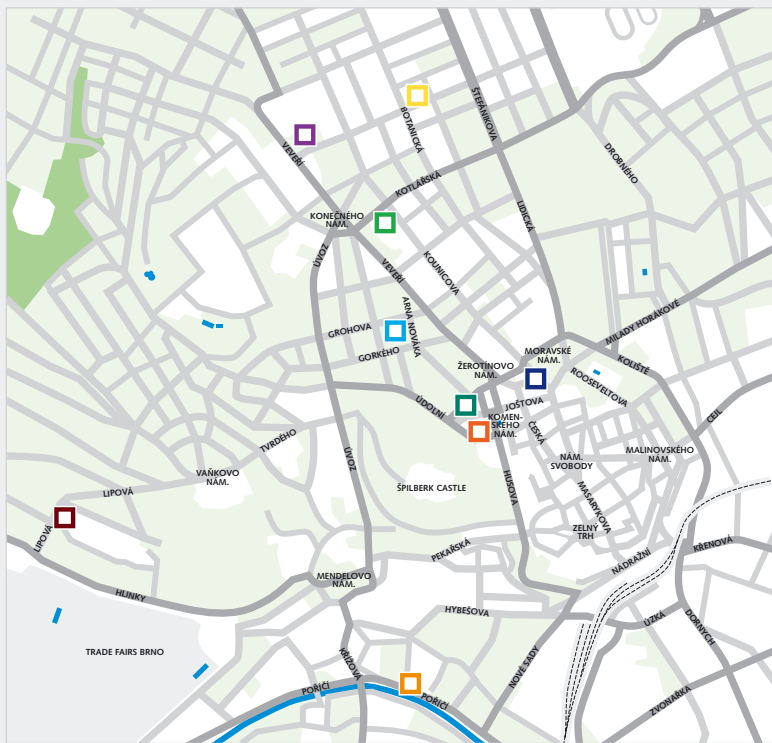
■ **Faculty of Education**
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■ **Faculty of Economics
and Administration**
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■ **Faculty of Social Studies**
Joštova 10, 602 00 Brno

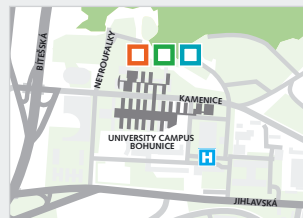
■ **Faculty of Sports Studies**
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Photographs of the campus courtesy of A PLUS a. s., UCB general designer and architect

