

Strategic Plan of Tallinn University of Technology 2020

The mission of Tallinn University of Technology is to be a promoter of science, technology and innovation and a leading provider of engineering and economic education in Estonia.

We value professionalism and reliability, entrepreneurship and innovation, openness and cooperativeness.

Our vision is innovative Estonia in a sustainable world.

1. TUT is an internationally outstanding university of engineering and technology, which brings together motivated employees and ambitious students.

1.1 Our key objective is to develop professional potential of our employees, which shall be based on the employee's motivation, international openness and well-targeted selection of staff. We expect the academic staff to have international work experience, regularly engage in self-improvement and actively participate in international research and development and studies.

1.2. We will introduce an integrated tenure-team academic career model. Student and stakeholder feedback, academic performance, international outreach and industrial partnerships play a key role in the implementation of the career model.

1.3 We will increase the share of internationally recognised top researchers in the academic family and strengthen our capacity for research, thereby laying a strong foundation for all the activities of the university.

1.4 The main task of our university is to provide up-to-date, knowledge-based and learner-focused education at all levels of higher education and in continuing education courses and to develop science and new technologies. We want to be the first choice for secondary school graduates for continuing their studies and we expect students to be motivated and ambitious. We believe that internationalisation of the student body has an essential and natural role in further improvement of academic quality.

1.5 We regard doctoral students as researchers, who, together with post-doctoral fellows, have a vital role in consistent strengthening of the university's capacity for research. We will internationalise doctoral studies and search for talented doctoral students from Estonia, as well as from all over the world.

1.6. We seek actively new opportunities for multifaceted cooperation with other universities, research institutions and companies.

2. The university, relying on academic competencies and professional management, responds actively to the needs of the rapidly developing society and is involved in tackling the challenges of the digital era.

2.1 Research teams that lay the foundation for the development of science and technology, knowledge-based studies and interaction with society constitute the basis for the university's academic capacity. Research teams shall be able to successfully apply for research funding and engage in research- and innovation-intensive cooperation with enterprises and the public sector in Estonia, as well as abroad.

2.2 Related research teams form a department, which is the central academic and administrative structural unit of the university. The departments shall provide the academic competence and infrastructure required for teaching and research and the capacity to successfully participate in international research cooperation, including international networks and in cooperation with enterprises, as well as with the public sector.

2.3 Teaching at the university shall be based on the competencies of the departments. Degree level programmes shall be managed on the faculty level and the Estonian Maritime Academy.

2.4 The faculties shall be reorganised and redesigned in accordance with the areas of responsibility arising from the Tallinn University of Technology Act.

2.5 The colleges shall operate in parallel with the departments as regional academic centres, the functions of which include in particular provision of professional higher education and development and innovation activities.

2.6 We shall enhance our professionalism and boost efficiency at all management and administrative levels. To this end, we will establish a comprehensive resource management system, which combines the academic and economic indicators, and we will set higher requirements for the selection of managers.

2.7 We shall increase our international visibility and strengthen cooperation with technology-intensive enterprises and the public sector. We will develop in particular engineering sciences and support application of expertise in this field in the society and thus contribute to the development of the existing research teams vital for the economy and society and to the establishment of new ones.

2.8 In order to foster teaching and learning we will set higher requirements for the teaching staff and students. Valuing of the work of lecturers will be a key element of our organisational culture. We want to increase the percentage of high-level international students, in particular in master's and doctoral studies, while improving our capacity to provide education in English and fostering joint study programmes with strong academic partners all over the world.

2.9 We will draw up more broad-based study programmes for the first level and foster specialisation in a certain field after acquisition of general and basic knowledge, enabling the students to choose between professional higher education and academic higher education also during their studies. We will award primary level engineer's qualification in the engineering specialities.

3. Cooperation between the university, enterprises and the public sector contributes significantly to knowledge and welfare in the society.

3.1 In our activities we abide by the principle that the university's strong international position and carefully focused contribution to excellence and state-of-the-art technologies serve the interests of Estonian economy and people in the best way. We make use of our academic potential in particular through strategic partnership with major technology-intensive companies in the world, while being an active partner to Estonian companies and involving them in the activities and development of the university. We aim to create a situation, where cooperation with strong business partners is carried out in every field of research.

3.2 We play an active role in the development and implementation of the research and higher education policies in Estonia, with an aim to be a partner for the state, who provides ideas and advice for solving problems related to the fields of engineering, technology, economy and social affairs.

3.3 We will consistently step up efforts to provide various forms of continuing and lifelong education.

3.4 We consider it important that the employees and students maintain high capacity for work and good work-life balance. Therefore, we continue to consider it important to promote personal development through cultural and sports activities, hobbies and professional activities.

3.5 We consider it essential to reinforce the contribution of the alumni to the achievement of the development goals.

3.6 We play an active role in popularising engineering sciences and take the lead in collecting, preserving and raising awareness of Estonian cultural heritage related to the achievements and history of engineering sciences in Estonia and abroad.