

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN OSIJEK

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### Three Centuries of Higher Education

Osijek (historical Latin name *Essekium*; Hungarian: *Eszek*; German: *Esseg*) is located on the Drava River. It is the administrative centre of the Osijek-Baranja county and the largest city in Eastern Croatia. Moreover, Osijek is a university town.

The Baroque *Tvrđa* of the city of Osijek was built at the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century on the foundations of Turkish Osijek. It belongs to the cultural heritage of the highest category not only in Croatia but also in Central Europe. Such a harmonious, almost perfect combination of military fort and regularly organized urban life imbued with elements of religious and spiritual life cannot be found even within the entire world heritage of the Baroque period. Today, *Tvrđa* is a protected cultural heritage area.

The history of higher education in this region began in *Tvrđa* almost three centuries ago, i.e. in 1707, when the first institution of higher education was founded in Osijek. It was the Higher School of Theology, which was opened in the academic year 1707/1708 as *Studium Philosophicum Essekini*, and included a three-year course of studies in philosophy.

The Second Higher School of Theology was also founded in Osijek in 1724 as *Studium Theologicum Essekini*. On 22 January 1724, by the decision of the Franciscan commissioner *Josip ab Ebor*, both schools were promoted to a higher level and became first degree general institutions of higher education: *Studium Generalae Theologicum primae Classis*, i.e. schools of the highest level with a preparatory department of philosophy. These two institutions of higher education trained highly educated teachers of theology and secondary school teachers who worked in grammar schools. About 150 students of philosophy and 300 students of theology graduated in Osijek. The significance of the first colleges in Osijek lies in their huge contribution to the Croatian language and literature as well as in the spreading of liberal-arts education and the study of languages and classical literature.

In 1806, the diocesan Theological College of the Episcopal seminary in *Đakovo* was founded by *Antun Mandić*, a bishop from *Đakovo*. It began as a two-year study of philosophy, and later became a two-year study of theology as well. The Faculty of Theology today continues the two-century long tradition of the study of philosophy and theology in the diocesan town of *Đakovo*.

In this brief historical overview it is important to point out that during this academic year we not only celebrate the 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the University, but also three centuries of higher education in Osijek. The recent history of higher education in this area began in 1959 when the Zagreb Faculty of Economics, upon approval of the University of Zagreb, founded the Centre for Part-time Studies in Osijek, as a branch of the Zagreb Faculty of Economics. The first two-year colleges were established in 1960: College of Economics and College of Agriculture, which were the first

institutions of higher education in Eastern Slavonia. In 1961, due to a great demand for highly educated people in Eastern Slavonia, Teacher Training Colleges were opened in Osijek and Slavonski Brod. The Zagreb Faculty of Law founded the Centre for Part-time Studies of Law in Osijek, the Polytechnic was founded in Slavonski Brod and the two-year College of Economics was founded in Vukovar. It is worth mentioning that in 1961 the two-year College of Economics developed into the Faculty of Economics, and in 1963 the Student Centre was founded in Osijek. In 1967 the Centre for Study of Mechanical Engineering was founded in Slavonski Brod and 37 years ago, a student dormitory was built in Osijek. Also, it should be noted that higher education kept developing during the 70's of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in Eastern Slavonia. As a result, the Faculty of Agriculture in Osijek offered a course of study in food processing in addition to the already existing studies in agriculture and animal husbandry. In 1971 the first full-time students enrolled in Osijek in the programs of the department of the two-year Zagreb College of Civil Engineering. In 1972, a two-year College of Economics was founded in Slavonski Brod and in 1973 the Faculty of Economics in Osijek offered the program of law studies.

This brief outline highlights the development of higher education up to 1975 when the initiative for the founding of the University of Osijek was announced. On 26 March 1975 the Croatian Parliament (*Sabor*) passed the Decision granting consent for the establishment of the University of Osijek. Two months later, on 31 May 1975, the Agreement on Establishing the University of Osijek was signed by the Faculty of Economics, the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Processing, the Institute of Agriculture, the Zagreb School of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture for Engineering Studies in Slavonski Brod, the Teacher Training College in Osijek, the Zagreb Music Academy for the Music Department in Osijek, the City Library and the Historical Archives in Osijek. Therefore, we celebrate May 31 to commemorate the day when the University of Osijek was founded. In this brief outline we need to point out several important years in the history of the founding of various faculties of the University of Osijek: in 1975 the Faculty of Law, in 1976 the Faculty of Food Technology, in 1977 the Faculty of Education, in 1979 the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Slavonski Brod as well as the Medical Studies in Osijek as a branch study of the Faculty of Medicine in Zagreb, in 1982 the Faculty of Civil Engineering, in 1990 the Electrical Engineering Studies developed into the Faculty of Electrical Engineering. It should also be noted that since 1990 the name *Josip Juraj Strossmayer* has been included in the name of the University. Bishop *Josip Juraj Strossmayer* was a Croatian politician, enlightener, great benefactor and one of the most influential people at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Moreover, he was of great importance for Croatian and European culture. The University of Osijek is the only University in Croatia that suffered human casualties as well

as severe damage during the homeland war. Namely, 24 students and 5 university teachers were killed, and the damage to the faculty buildings and the institution on the whole is estimated to be 15 million Euros. The buildings of the Faculty of Agriculture and the Faculty of Food Technology both situated on Tenjska cesta were completely destroyed. The Faculty of Food Technology has now relocated to Tvrđa at Kuhačeva 18, but the Faculty of Agriculture still does not have its own premises and is located temporarily in Tvrđa on the premises of the Rector's Office. The second stage of the construction of the university campus includes beginning of the construction of the building of the Faculty of Agriculture.

In addition, in recent history of the University we must note several important years regarding founding of the various constituents of the University of Osijek: in 1995 the Student Centre in Slavonski Brod, in 1998 the Faculty of Medicine and the Teacher Training College, in 1999 the Department of Mathematics and in 2002 the Technology and Development Centre as a trade association of the University of Osijek, Osijek-Baranja county as well as of the City of Osijek. The Technology and Development Centre in Osijek is a limited liability company set up for the purpose of promoting new technologies, innovation and entrepreneurship as well as ensuring cooperation between science and industry.

In the academic year 2004/2005 the Academy of Arts was established, as well as the Department of Biology, the Department of Physics and the Department of Chemistry. In the academic year 2005/2006 the Senate passed the Decision which promoted the Teacher Training College to the Faculty of Education.

The influence of the University on the development of Eastern Croatia lies in educating teachers, engineers in technical and biotechnical sciences, as well as economists, lawyers and medical doctors. In the last 32 years, more than 26 665 students graduated from the University of Osijek, which is a great contribution to the economic and social development of Eastern Croatia.

## Development of the University of Osijek in the period from the academic year 1999/2000 to the academic year 2005/2006

In a brief historical overview it is important to highlight the last five-year period from the academic year 1999/2000 to 2005/2006, which was marked by the construction and reconstruction of the University, as well as by ensuring appropriate university premises for the purpose of conducting teaching. As a result, the restructuring of the University of Osijek was carried out in accordance with the new European trends.

Table 1 shows that in the academic year 1999/2000 the University of Osijek had **11 constituent parts** as follows: 9 faculties, the Teacher Training College and the Department of Mathematics. The restructuring of the University began with the founding of the Faculty of Medicine in 1998, the Teacher Training College and the Department of Mathematics. The Department of Mathematics is the first university department within the scientific area of natural sciences and the first Croatian university department that was set up in accordance with the Higher Education Act (Narodne novine Official Gazzette nr. 59/96.) The process of restructuring of the Faculty of Education started with the founding of the university departments and of the Teacher Training College.

In the academic years 2000/2001 and 2001/2002 needs analyses for founding of university departments of physics, biology and chemistry were conducted and new university studies in philosophy, psychology and pedagogy were set up at the Faculty of Education. With the founding of the university study of philosophy all legal conditions were fulfilled for the change of name of the Faculty of Education. By the Decision of the Senate on December 13, 2003 the Faculty of Education was renamed the Faculty of Philosophy. In the academic year 2004/2005 the following constituent parts were set up: the Academy of Arts, the Catholic Faculty of Theology, as well as three university departments: the Department of Biology, the Department of Physics and the Department of Chemistry. There were 14 constituent parts of the University of Osijek in the academic year 2004/2005: 9 faculties, the Academy of Arts, the Teacher Training College, and 3 university departments: the

Table 1: Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek and its constituent parts

1999/2000- 2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006
Faculty of Economics	Faculty of Economics	Faculty of Economics
Faculty of Electrical Engineering	Faculty of Electrical Engineering	Faculty of Electrical Engineering
Faculty of Philosophy	Faculty of Philosophy	Faculty of Philosophy
Faculty of Civil Engineering	Faculty of Civil Engineering	Faculty of Civil Engineering
Faculty of Medicine	Faculty of Medicine	Catholic Faculty of Theology
Faculty of Agriculture	Faculty of Agriculture	Faculty of Medicine
Faculty of Law	Faculty of Law	Faculty of Agriculture
Faculty of Food Technology	Faculty of Food Technology	Faculty of Law
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	Faculty of Food Technology
Teacher Training College	Teacher Training College	Faculty of Mechanical Engineering
Department of Mathematics	Academy of Arts	Faculty of Education
	Department of Mathematics	Academy of Arts
	Department of Physics	Department of Mathematics
	Department of Biology	Department of Physics
		Department of Biology
		Department of Chemistry
<b>11 constituent parts</b>	<b>14 constituent parts</b>	<b>16 constituent parts</b>

Table 2: Number of teachers and associates at Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek 1999/00 - 2005/06

Faculties/Departments	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	05/06
Faculty of Economics	42	41	41	41	41	40	40
Faculty of Electrical Engineering	43	40	44	42	42	40	40
Faculty of Philosophy	82	82	85	79	92	72	81
Faculty of Civil Engineering	43	44	44	40	52	51	53
Catholic Faculty of Theology	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Faculty of Medicine	56	53	56	61	57	74	80
Faculty of Agriculture	90	91	95	90	91	93	99
Faculty of Law	31	32	30	31	29	29	30
Faculty of Food Technology	29	34	35	36	34	35	42
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	41	41	40	39	40	40	40
Faculty of Education	17	19	20	21	20	20	22
Academy of Arts	-	-	-	-	-	10	14
Department of Mathematics	3	3	3	8	10	10	15
Department of Biology	-	-	-	-	-	15	25
Department of Physics	-	-	-	-	-	7	8
Department of Chemistry	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>536</b>	<b>611</b>

Table 3: Number of students at the University of Osijek in the period 1999/00 - 2005/06

CONSTITUENT PARTS	1999/00	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06
Faculty of Economics	2869	1971	2142	2759	4287	5537	5297
Faculty of Electrical Engineering	408	406	693	813	1114	1287	1380
Faculty of Philosophy	1118	1066	1089	1056	1262	1393	1305
Faculty of Civil Engineering	408	397	686	748	704	917	1027
Catholic Faculty of Theology	0	0	0	0	0	0	228
Faculty of Medicine	303	338	350	356	379	498	632
Faculty of Agriculture	801	770	946	1083	1210	1394	1664
Faculty of Law	1859	1932	2101	2150	2224	2539	2405
Faculty of Food Technology	576	583	597	596	618	440	620
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	236	307	414	471	476	567	627
Faculty of Education	251	339	493	489	636	635	828
Academy of Arts	0	0	0	0	0	49	149
Department of Mathematics	207	265	272	259	304	394	393
Department of Biology	0	0	0	0	0	0	153
Department of Physics	0	0	0	0	0	0	110
Department of Chemistry	0	0	0	0	0	0	104
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>9036</b>	<b>8374</b>	<b>9783</b>	<b>10780</b>	<b>13214</b>	<b>15650</b>	<b>16922</b>

Department of Mathematics, the Department of Physics and the Department of Biology, which makes a total of **14 constituent parts** (shown in Table 1). In the academic year 2005/2006, the University started the implementation of the Bologna process at 11 faculties, the Academy of Arts and 4 university departments, which makes a total of 16 constituent parts, i.e. 5 new constituent parts in the last five-year period. Furthermore, we need to point out that the Teacher Training College has been promoted to the Faculty of Education by the Decision of the Senate from September 26<sup>th</sup> 2005 and based on the licence of the Minister of undergraduate and graduate studies.

There are three more affiliated institutions of the University of Osijek, along with the 16 constituent parts: the City and University Library in Osijek, the Student Centre in Osijek, the Student Centre in Slavonski Brod as well as the Technology and Development Centre in Osijek that is a trade association of the Osijek-Baranja county, the City of Osijek and the University of Osijek.

There was an increase in the number of university teachers and associates in the last five-year period of 28,09

%(Table 2).

As shown in Table 3, there is a slight increase in student enrolment in the academic year 2002/2003 compared to the previous years. Furthermore, there has been a significant increase in student enrolment since the academic year 2003/2004. This increase in the number of enrolled students is due to the increased interest of students in the new studies. Namely, in the academic year 2003/2004 new university and professional studies were introduced as well as satellite studies in the Vukovar-Syrmia County.

The process of founding new studies in accordance with the Bologna process as well as the Science and Higher Education Act was initiated in the academic year 2005/2006. That year, there were a record number of enrolled students that amounted to 16 922 which is 7 886 students more compared to the academic year 1999/2000. Expressed in percentages, the number of enrolled students in the academic year 2005/2006 increased by 87,2 % compared to the academic year 1999/00. In the area of social sciences, there was a slight decrease in enrolled students in the academic years 2001/2002 and 2005/2006. The

percentage of students enrolled in the studies within the social sciences in the overall number of enrolled students at the University of Osijek amounts to 52 %. In the area of humanities, the number of enrolled students increased significantly in the last year in comparison with the academic years 2003/2004 and 2004/2005 and the average number of students enrolled in the area of humanities amounts to 8,7 %.

## **The University of Osijek in the academic year 2006/2007**

### **The role of the University in higher education reform and in the implementation of the Bologna process**

Now, at the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, often referred to as the century of knowledge, a prerequisite for the development of our country is the development of higher education and science as the basis of sustainable economic development, as well as social and cultural advancement. It is necessary to encourage creativity and innovation at the University of Osijek, as well as to become compatible with the European system. The goal of our University is to join the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), to develop the Bologna process, ensure mobility as well as quality. (EUA Council, July 2003, Leuven). The University of Osijek is a significant factor for the development of Eastern Croatia. It accumulates and transfers knowledge important for economic and social welfare at the regional, national and global level. The University should be based on well-organized research capacities and research-oriented teaching.

Students are active partners in the academic community and numerous surveys that have been conducted reflect our level of availability in all segments of our activities. Students are involved in work of all relevant bodies as the Senate, the University Council, as well as governing councils of the following university constituents: the Student Centre in Slavonski Brod and in Osijek as well as the City and University Library. Students are also members of university committees, university commissions and of the professional and advisory bodies of which they are equal members and decision-makers. The Bologna process encourages changes as well as the introduction of flexible programs with individual decision making regarding education for all students. If we succeed in the implementation of the Bologna reforms, we are more likely to attract foreign students from neighbouring and other countries, whereby it will be necessary to ensure a high level of quality, as well as to stimulate excellence and to promote particularity and cultural diversity. Diversity of the University is considered to be an important factor for a successful cooperation between universities that is based on the Bologna process, various interests and positive particularities. The challenges the University is facing are, above all, internationalization, involvement in the European Research and Higher Education Area, as well as establishing a successful cooperation with the corporate sector. Examples from the past show not only that the position and the role of the university reflect the level of democracy, but also that the university, as a civil society institution, plays an active role in the process of development of the contemporary democracy. Universities and other higher education institutions should not only educate i.e. train students for their future endeavours, but

also foster the development of open-minded and moral individuals who are fundamental factors in the process of development of the democratic society.

In order to meet the above mentioned requirements, the University has to face unavoidable changes for which it has to be well prepared. The central objective of the University at the present is the transition towards an integrated, competent, research-oriented and efficient university with an accreditation system of both institutions and programs as well as for quality improvement. Quality assurance is one of the main principles of the Bologna process, therefore, it is very important for Europe to have a coherent policy based on the fact that institutional autonomy makes and requires responsibility, thereby making universities responsible for the development of its internal quality culture. The goal of the European dimension of quality assurance is, first of all, to promote mutual trust as well as to improve the level of transparency, thereby acknowledging national varieties. In accordance with the Bologna process, which emphasizes the fact that a Europe of knowledge is being recognized as an irreplaceable factor of social and human development, the role of universities becomes even greater. Autonomous universities responsive to changes and demands of the society are important initiators of the development of our society.

Finally, we must point out that the Republic of Croatia must have an excellent university system in order to become a knowledge-based society and economy. Recognising this, the University of Osijek strives to keep pace with European trends, as well as to harmonize with the European universities and to contribute to the widening of the European dimension in higher education.

### **University Activities**

#### **Undergraduate and Graduate Studies**

In the academic year 2004/2005, in which the implementation of the Bologna process began, the constituent parts created their new study programs, which were then transferred by the University Senate on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005 via Ministry of Science, Education and Sports to the National Council for Higher Education. Based on the positive review of the National Council for Higher Education, the Minister of Science, Education and Sports issued the licence for 35 undergraduate, 47 graduate (Table 4) and 11 professional study programs (Table 5) at the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek.

#### **Academic Staff**

In the academic year 2006/2007 teaching and scientific work at higher education institutions was conducted by 692 members of academic staff (Table 6), of which there were 387 members with scientific and teaching titles (assistant professor, associate professor, full professor), 88 holding teaching titles (senior lecturer, lecturer, college professor, senior language instructor, language instructor, senior art assistant and art assistant), 201 holding assistant positions (senior assistant and assistant) and 16 holding associate titles (associate).

Table 4: Overview of university study programs according to scientific areas at Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek in the academic year 2006/2007

Scientific Area/ Holder of the Study	University Undergraduate Study	University Graduate Study	Integrated University Undergraduate and Graduate Studies
BIOMEDICINE AND HEALTH			
<b>Faculty of Medicine</b>			Medicine
BIOTECHNICAL SCIENCES			
<b>Faculty of Agriculture</b>	1. Agriculture; programs: - Agroecconomics - Plant Production - Mechanisation - Zootechnology	1. Agroecconomics 2. Plant Production; programs: - Plant Production - Plant Nutrition and Soil Science - Plant Selection and Seed Production - Plant Protection 3. Mechanisation 4. Zootechnology; programs: - The Feeding of Domestic Animals - Hunting and Beekeeping - Special Zootechnology 5. Ecological Agriculture	
<b>Faculty of Food Technology</b>	Food Technology	1. Food Engineering 2. Food Science and Nutritionism 3. Process Engineering	
SOCIAL SCIENCES			
<b>Faculty of Economics</b>	1. Entrepreneurship 2. Economic Policy and Regional Development 3. Financial Management 4. Marketing 5. Management 6. Business Informatics 7. Trade and Logistics	1. Entrepreneurship 2. Economic Policy and Regional Development 3. Financial Management 4. Marketing 5. Business Economics; program: Management 6. Business Economics; program: Business Informatics 7. Business economics; program: Trade and Logistics	
<b>Faculty of Philosophy</b>	Information Sciences	Information Sciences	
	Pedagogy (dual degree program)	Pedagogy (dual degree program)	
	Psychology	Psychology; program: teacher training	
<b>Faculty of Law</b>			Law
<b>Faculty of Education</b>			Teacher Training
HUMANITIES			
<b>Faculty of Philosophy</b>	English Language and Literature (dual degree program)	English Language and Literature; program: - teacher training studies (dual degree program) - philology (dual degree program) - translation studies (single and dual degree program)	
	Philosophy (dual degree program)	Philosophy (dual degree program); program: teacher training	
	Croatian Language and Literature (single and dual degree program)	Croatian Language and Literature (single and dual degree program); programs: - teacher training studies (single and dual degree program) - research in literature studies (single degree program)	

Table 4: Overview of university study programs according to scientific areas at Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek in the academic year 2006/2007 (continuation)

Scientific Area/ Holder of the Study	University Undergraduate Study	University Graduate Study	Integrated University Undergraduate and Graduate Studies
<b>Catholic Faculty of Theology</b>	Theology (according to pre-Bologna study program)		
NATURAL SCIENCES			
<b>Department of Biology</b>	Biology	1. Biology and Chemistry; program: teacher training 2. Biology; program: scientific	
<b>Department of Physics</b>	Physics	Physics and Information Technology; program: teacher training	
<b>Department of Mathematics</b>	Mathematics  University Study: Mathematics and Information Technology; program: teacher training	Mathematics; program: - Financial and Business Mathematics - Mathematics and Computer Science - Mathematical Economics and Statistics - Industrial and Applied Mathematics	
TECHNICAL SCIENCES			
<b>Faculty of Electrical Engineering</b>	1. Electrical Engineering 2. Computer Science	1. Electrical Engineering; program: - Communication and Informatics - Electroenergetics 2. Computer Science	
<b>Faculty of Civil Engineering</b>	Civil Engineering; program: general study	Civil Engineering; programs: - Hydraulic Engineering - Supportive Structures - Technology Organisation and Construction Management	
<b>Faculty of Mechanical Engineering</b>	Production Engineering; programs: - Product Design and Development - Manufacturing Logistics - Engineering of Materials - Engineering Technologies	Production Engineering; programs: - Product Design and Development - Manufacturing Logistics - Engineering of Materials - Engineering Technologies	
ART SCIENCES			
<b>Academy of Arts</b>			
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC	1. Music Pedagogy 2. Vocal Studies 3. Piano	1. Music Pedagogy 2. Vocal Studies; program: solo- performer 3. Piano; program: solo-performer	
DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS	Visual Arts	Visual Arts	
DEPARTMENT OF DRAMA	Acting and Puppetry	Acting and Puppetry	

Table 5: Overview of professional study programs at constituent parts of Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek in the academic year 2006/2007

Constituent Parts	Professional Study Program
1. Faculty of Economics	Accounting Trade Satellite Study in Varaždin
2. Faculty of Electrical Engineering	Electrical Engineering; programs: Electroenergetics, Automatics, Information Science; Satellite Study: Požega, Vinkovci
3. Faculty of Civil Engineering	Civil Engineering; program: general study; Satellite Study in Vinkovci
4. Faculty of Medicine	Nursing Study
5. Faculty of Agriculture	Entrepreneurship in Agriculture, Plant Production; programs: Crop Husbandry, Mechanisation in Agriculture, Zootechnolgy
6. Faculty of Law	Administrative Law
7. Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	Production Engineering
8. Faculty of Education	Preschool Education Satellite Study in Vukovar
<b>Total</b>	<b>11 Study Programs</b>

Table 6: Number of researchers, lecturers and associates at Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek in the academic year 2006/2007

Faculty/Department	Full Professor	Associate Professor	Assistant Professor	Senior Lecturer	Lecturer	College Professor	Senior Language Instructor	Language Instructor	Senior Assistant	Assistant	Associate	TOTAL
Faculty of Economics	17	8	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	37
Faculty of Electrical Engineering	8	5	7	7	2	0	0	0	1	17	3	50
Faculty of Philosophy	10	14	17	4	5	0	2	3	2	44	0	101
Faculty of Civil Engineering	9	5	12	8	4	2	0	0	0	7	0	47
Catholic Faculty of Theology	2	1	7	1	1	0	0	0	4	5	0	21
Faculty of Medicine	12	23	44	0	3	0	0	0	2	20		104
Faculty of Agriculture	31	18	20	5	6	0	0	0	2	22	5	109
Faculty of Law	6	2	8	6	1	0	0	0	3	5	0	31
Faculty of Food Technology	9	7	9	1	1	0	0	0	2	13	1	43
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	12	5	8	4	3	0	0	0	2	3	2	39
Faculty of Education	1	2	6	5	3	1	0	0	2	10	0	30
Academy of Arts	1	1	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	18
Department of Mathematics	2	1	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	9	0	17
Department of Physics	1	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	10
Department of Biology	0	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	1	11	3	24
Department of Chemistry	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>692</b>

Table 7: Overview of the number of students in the academic year 2006/2007

Faculty/Department	Full-time students	Part-time students	Total	University studies	Professional studies
Faculty of Economics	2486	2153	4639	3218	1421
Faculty of Electrical Engineering	1392	260	1652	1021	631
Faculty of Philosophy	1489	0	1489	1489	0
Faculty of Civil Engineering	779	271	1050	635	415
Catholic Faculty of Theology	251	0	251	251	0
Faculty of Medicine	661	70	731	436	295
Faculty of Agriculture	1310	285	1595	1054	541
Faculty of Law	1799	1830	3629	2751	878
Faculty of Food Technology	619	0	619	619	0
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	365	224	589	468	121
Faculty of Education	859	0	859	632	227
Academy of Arts	186	0	186	186	0
Department of Mathematics	446	0	446	446	0
Department of Biology	209	0	209	209	0
Department of Physics	152	0	152	152	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13003</b>	<b>5093</b>	<b>18096</b>	<b>13568</b>	<b>4528</b>

## Students

At Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek in the academic year 2006/2007 there were 18 096 students, of which 13 568 were attending university studies and 4 528 professional studies (Table 7).

In the first year of study there were 4 098 enrolled students, of which 2 409 were full-time students financially supported by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, 923 full-time students individually financially supported, 763 part-time students and 3 international students.

There were 2 636 enrolled students in the University Studies program; 1791 of them were fully financially supported by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, 676 students were partially funded by the Ministry, there were 168 part-time students and 1 foreign student.

In the professional studies program there were 1 462 enrolled students; 618 of them were fully financially supported by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, 247 students were partially financially supported by the Ministry, there were 595 part-time students and 2 international students.

At the satellite studies in Vinkovci, Požega, Slavonski Brod and in Varaždin there were 537 students enrolled; 203 students were fully financially supported by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, 32 were partially financially supported by the Ministry and there were 302 part-time students.

### Scientific and Research Activities

Scholarly and research activities are based on the scholarly and research work of scholars at the higher education institutions within research projects and training of junior researchers. Research and development contribute to the creation of high-quality research in higher education research areas, being at the same time support for the economic, social and humane advancement of the knowledge-based society. Scholarly and research activities at Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek are conducted within six scientific areas: Natural Sciences (Department of Mathematics, Department of Physics, Department of Biology and Department of Chemistry); Technical Sciences (Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering); Biomedicine and Health (Faculty of Medicine); Biotechnical Sciences (Faculty of Agriculture and Faculty of Food Technology); Social Sciences (Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Law and Faculty of Education); Humanities (Faculty of Philosophy, Catholic Faculty of Theology).

### Research Projects

In accordance with the calls for tender announced on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006 by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, the constituent parts of Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek submitted a total of 230 research project proposals.

Of the above mentioned submitted project proposals, the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports approved 130 research projects of the scientific and teaching members of Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek (Table 8).

Table 8: Overview of the number of research projects approved by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports in the academic year 2006/2007

Number	Faculty/Department	Scientific Projects
1	Faculty of Economics	14
2	Faculty of Electrical Engineering	8
3	Faculty of Philosophy	12
4	Faculty of Civil Engineering	5
5	Catholic Faculty of Theology	1
6	Faculty of Medicine	22
7	Faculty of Agriculture	29
8	Faculty of Law	7
9	Faculty of Food Technology	11
10	Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	10
11	Faculty of Education	2
12	Department of Mathematics	3
13	Department of Biology	5
14	Department of Chemistry	1
	<b>UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>130</b>

In the academic year 2006/2007, the constituent parts of Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek participated in the realization of the developmental projects by conducting basic and development research for the purpose of developing and improving agriculture in the Osijek-Baranja County.

The Osijek-Baranja County has approved 16 developmental projects of the University of Osijek, furthermore, on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006 it signed the **Agreement on Co-Financing of Developmental Scientific and Research Projects** with the following constituent parts: the Faculty of Economics, the Faculty of Agriculture and the Faculty of Food Technology in Osijek.

### Junior Researchers

In the academic year 2006/2007, 159 junior researchers participated in the scientific and research activities at Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek (Table 9).

Table 9: Overview of the number of junior researchers at Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek in the academic year 2006/2007

Number	Faculty/Department	Junior Researchers
1	Faculty of Economics	8
2	Faculty of Electrical Engineering	14
3	Faculty of Philosophy	16
4	Faculty of Civil Engineering	8
5	Faculty of Medicine	13
6	Faculty of Agriculture	18
7	Faculty of Law	19
8	Faculty of Food Technology	17
9	Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	10
10	Faculty of Education	1
11	Department of Mathematics	9
12	Faculty of Biology	13
13	Faculty of Physics	3
14	Faculty of Chemistry	1
	<b>UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>150</b>

### Postgraduate Studies

#### University Postgraduate Doctoral Studies

The postgraduate doctoral study programme is the third cycle of education in line with the Bologna process and the highest level of education of 3-year-duration, including original/authentic research activities which are of exceptional importance for the development of the European Higher Education and Research Area.

11 doctoral studies have been established at the constituent parts of the University of Osijek (Table 10). Doctoral studies are conducted in the following scientific areas: technical sciences 3, biomedicine and health 1, biotechnical sciences 2, social sciences 1, humanities 2, and 2 in biomedicine and health and natural sciences.

Postgraduate professional studies last in range from one to two years and provide professional specialisation on a higher level and, as a rule, are organized with the respect to specific market needs. At the constituent parts of the University of Osijek there are 20 postgraduate professional studies established in the following scientific areas: technical sciences 5, biotechnical sciences 6, social sciences 7, and 2 university interdisciplinary postgraduate professional studies.



Table 10. Overview of the postgraduate doctoral studies in the academic year 2006/2007

Number	Faculty/ Department	Title of the Postgraduate Study	Scientific Area Scientific Field
1	Faculty of Economics	Management	Social Sciences Economics
2	Faculty of Electrical Engineering	Electrical Engineering Programs: Electroenergetics Communication and Informatics	Technical Sciences Electrical Engineering
3	Faculty of Philosophy	Linguistics Literature and Cultural Identity	Humanities Philology
4	Faculty of Civil Engineering	Civil Engineering	Technical Sciences Civil Engineering
5	Faculty of Medicine	Biomedicine and Health	Biomedicine and Health Clinical Medical Sciences
6	Faculty of Agriculture	Agricultural Sciences, programs: Agroeconomics Nutrition of Animals and Fodder Technology Hunting and Cynology Plant Selection and Seed Science Animal Husbandry Technical Systems in Agriculture Plant Protection Agricultural Economy	Biotechnical Sciences Agriculture
7	Faculty of Food Technology	Food Engineering	Biotechnical Sciences Food Technology
8	Faculty of Mechanical Engineering	Mechanical Engineering Programs: Contemporary Production Procedures Contemporary Production Management Construction and Numeric Modelling of the Product	Technical Sciences Mechanical Engineering
9	University of Osijek and Ruđer Bošković Institute	Nature and Environment Protection – interdisciplinary university doctoral study	Natural Sciences Biology Biotechnical Sciences Agriculture Food Technology
10	University of Osijek, University of Dubrovnik and Ruđer Bošković Institute	Molecular Biosciences – interdisciplinary university doctoral study	Biomedicine and Health Basic Medical Sciences Natural Sciences Biology Biotechnical Sciences Agriculture
	<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	

## International Cooperation

The University of Osijek (Rector's Office) has developed successful international cooperation with universities abroad on the basis of bilateral agreements (Table 11).

A long-term and very intense co-operation has been developed with the Universities of Augsburg, Pecs and Maribor. The co-operation with the University of Augsburg began in the seventies and continues to the present. Thus, during this academic year, the two universities organized a joint interdisciplinary seminar "Von der Antike bis in die Gegenwart: Geschichte-Recht-Wirtschaft" for the students of the University of Osijek. Traditionally the students of the Faculty of Economics, Law and Philosophy take part in this seminar. Professional and technical support was given by the International Relations Office of Osijek. The lectures were delivered by professors from Augsburg. The main topics and discussions dealt with European political unity, the law system of the EU, and the intercultural and historical aspects of the European unification.

During the period 2005-2007, the University of Osijek and the University of Augsburg have organized:

- Symposium in Augsburg, 2005 (Europe of the past and Europe today)
- Interdisciplinary Seminar for students in Osijek, 2006
- Symposium in Augsburg, 2007 (Culture management).

The cooperation with the University of Pecs can be considered traditional. In this academic year different aspects of future development of international relations have been decided upon. This mainly refers to co-operation of related faculties (Faculty of Civil Engineering, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Philosophy, Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Education). The co-operation primarily refers to joint research projects and teacher and student exchange programmes.

Beside partnership at the bilateral level, the two universities developed a CBC (cross border co-operation). Other partners within CBC are also the sister-cities Pecs and Osijek and the counties in the border region.

Within joint activities with the European House Pecs, the University of Osijek takes part in the EU projects, ICWiP (International Cultural Week in Pecs) and Summer University in Pecs, as well as in the activities that refer to the

Table 11. International cooperation

Country	University
Austria	BOKU Vienna
Bosnia and Herzegovina	University of Tuzla
	University of Mostar
	University of Sarajevo
	University of Bihać
Czech Republic	University of South Bohemia, Ceske Budejovice
Italy	Università degli Studi di Udine
Hungary	University of Kaposvar
	University of Pécs
	Berzsenyi Daniel College Szombathely
Norway	Agricultural University of Norway in Aas
Germany	Universität Augsburg
	Fachhochschule Pforzheim
	Fachhochschule Bremen
	Fachhochschule Giessen-Friedberg
	Universität des Saarlandes
	Fachhochschule Albstadt-Sigmaringen
Poland	Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan
Romania	University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine of Cluj-Napoca
Russia	St. Petersburg State Theatre Arts Academy
Slovakia	University of Trnava
	SS. Cyril i Methodius University of Trnava
Slovenia	University of Maribor
	University of Ljubljana
Sweden	Jönköping University
Turkey	Harran University
	Ege University-Izmir
USA	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
Ukraine	Kherson State University

professional education of the international relations staff.

Other university units develop their co-operation within scientific and research activities, professional activities and through teacher and student exchange programmes.

### Maribor Network

In 2004, as part of multilateral co-operation, University of Osijek signed the Agreement on University Network Establishment entitled **Maribor Network**, whose members are the following universities:

- University of Maribor, Slovenia
- University of Udine, Italy
- University of Klagenfurt, Austria
- University of Marburg, Germany
- University of Trnava, Slovakia
- University of Bielsko Biala, Poland
- Berzsenyi Daniel College Szombathely, Hungary
- University of Osijek, Croatia



Co-operation within the Maribor Network enables programmes of education at the undergraduate and graduate level, joint diploma courses and the exchange of experience and information on study programmes, study methods and didactic procedures within joint study programmes and scientific fields. This network cooperation will be realized through joint studies, the exchange of academic staff and of students, as well as joint scientific programmes and project proposals dealing with the following programs: TEMPUS, Socrates-Erasmus, and CEEPUS.

### EU programmes

The International Relations Office takes part in the EU programmes such as TEMPUS (Table 12) and CARDS. All members of its staff actively participate in various activities that are related to professional education (issues dealing with international affairs, project activities etc) that is in line with the harmonization of the higher education system).

### Reconstruction and Development of the University

The main activity of the University Management and Senate after the Homeland War is directed towards the reconstruction and development of the University, as well as towards a modern organization of the University.

Today, the University of Osijek is a middle-sized university according to European standards. It is extremely important for Eastern Croatia with a population of approximately 900 000 inhabitants. The University of Osijek meets the social and economics needs of five

Table 12. TEMPUS projects in the period 2001-2008

University of Osijek	Project Title	Consortium Partner	Duration
Rector's Office coordinator Lidija Getto	Development of University International Offices	University of Bristol, UK	2001/2003
Faculty of Education coordinator: Prof. Irena Vodopija	Communicational Competence in Language Pluralistic Environment	University of Vienna, A	2001/2003
Rector's Office coordinator: Prof. Žaneta Ugarčić-Hardi	Development of Quality Assurance System in Higher Education	Vienna University of Technology, A	2002/2004
Faculty of Economics coordinator: Prof. Anka Mašek	Financial Management of Croatian Universities	Universita degli studi di Udine, Udine, I	2003/2005
Faculty of Civil Engineering coordinator: Prof. Dragan Morić	Restructuring and Updating of Civil Engineering Curriculum	University of Glasgow, Glasgow, UK	2003/2006
Faculty of Agriculture coordinator: Prof. Sonja Marić	Reform of Agricultural Studies in Croatia	Universität Hohenheim, Stuttgart, D	2003/2006
Faculty of Food Technology coordinator: Prof. Milena Mandić	Gestion tehnico-economique da la qualite des produits alimentaires	AGRENA, Nantes, France	2005/2008
Faculty of Education coordinator: Prof. Irena Vodopija	Quality Development of Higher Education	Liverpool Hope University College, Liverpool, UK	2003/2006
Faculty of Philosophy coordinator: Prof. Mario Brdar	Language Communication and Cognitive Neuroscience	University of the Basque Country, Vitoria, E	2004/2007
Faculty of Education coordinator: Mirna Radišić	Foreign Languages in the Primary Level: Training Teachers	Centre International D'Etudes Pedagogiques, Sevres, F	2004/2007
Rector's Office coordinator: Lidija Getto	Moving Ahead with the Bologna Process in Croatia	University of Bristol, UK	2004/2007
Rector's Office coordinator: Lidija Getto	Virtual Academic Information Service: Scholarships.info	Dresden University of Technology, D	2004/2005
coordinator: Prof. Sanja Lončar-Vicković	Career Platform for Career Advice Centres in Croatia	Dresden University of Technology, D	2005/2006

Slavonian counties: Brod-Posavina County, Požega-Slavonia County, Virovitica-Podravina County, Vukovar-Syrmia County and Osijek-Baranya County.

Since the University of Osijek is an important factor for the development of Eastern Croatia, it is very important to envisage the future organization and development of the University within long-term plans of the university's development.

University development strategy entitled "The Program of Reconstruction and Development of Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek by 2010" envisages the development of University facilities at three main locations in the city of Osijek: Tvrdja, facilities of the "Drava" and "Gaj" barracks and further development of university facilities in Slavonski Brod. An Agreement on ceding of usage rights and reallocation of "Gaj" and "Drava" barracks for the needs of the University of Osijek was signed on 25 March 1997 in Osijek.

In line with the University development strategy, the University management completed a feasibility study entitled "The Program of Capital Investments for the Construction and Reconstruction of the University" in 2002. According to the Agreement, a long-term loan in total amount of 180 million HRK was approved by the Government of the Republic of Croatia and undersigned with Slavenska banka on 12 July 2002. The faculty premises were reconstructed and the "Gaj" barracks were adapted to house the University Departments of Mathematics, Physics and Biology as well as the Technology and Development Centre.

### Osijek University Campus

Osijek University Campus is the most important project of the University of Osijek and it is located on the premises of the former "Drava" barracks in Osijek. It is situated between *Tvrdja* and *Donji grad*, covering the area of

232 048 m<sup>2</sup>.

The most important capital investment of the University of Osijek is the construction of a new dormitory. The dormitory, the first building constructed on the Osijek University Campus, was opened on 22 December 2005, with its 9 909 m<sup>2</sup> and 504 beds. The amount of 63 million HRK was spent for the construction and furnishing of the dormitory. The next step is to construct the necessary campus facilities and a new building of the Faculty of Agriculture. Due to the significant archeological finds on the site, the building of the Faculty of Agriculture has been reprojected, so the construction of the new building began in 2007.

University Management in cooperation with the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports completed the feasibility study entitled "The Program of Capital Investments of the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of Osijek University Campus Construction". It encompasses the following: construction and equipping of the Faculty of Agriculture, construction of the Faculty of Civil Engineering, University Library, Gym and sport facilities, as well as the reconstruction and extension of the Faculty of Education premises, reconstruction of the Academy of Arts, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, CarNet and Student Restaurant.

Reconstruction of the Faculty of Food Technology and construction of new facilities of dormitory in Đakovo for the accommodation of students of the Catholic Faculty of Theology are also included in the Program of capital investments. The proposal was approved by the Government of the Republic of Croatia in total amount of 414 000 000 HRK for capital investments of the University of Osijek.

This is a concise overview of the history of the academic community of Osijek. During the last 32 years hard work of university professors and enthusiasm of researchers who have worked under unacceptable conditions must be noted. Nevertheless, they have gained

Excellent results and have contributed to the reputation and recognition of the University of Osijek in Croatia and abroad.

The Osijek academic community offers clear vision of the development and construction of Osijek university campus, implementation of Bologna process and inclusion into the European university association at the same time preserving its particularity and its identity.

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