



Interim Report of the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice

Name and location of the Veterinary Education Establishment (VEE)

University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice (UVMP), Slovak Republic

Name and details of the current VEE's Head

Prof. Jana Mojžišová, DVM, PhD, Dr. h. c.

The Rector is the statutory representative of the university. She manages the university, acts on its behalf, and represents the university externally. In addition to the remit provided for by law, she also directs the Vice-Rectors and the Bursar, imposes tasks and controls their work. Through the Vice-Rectors and the Bursar she manages the heads of departments. The legal position of the Rector is governed by the provisions of § 10 of the Higher Education Act and Art. 4 of the Statute of UVMP in Košice. The Rector is appointed by the President of the Slovak Republic on a proposal from the Academic Senate (AS) of UVMP. The proposal is submitted to the President of the Slovak Republic by the Minister of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic. The Rector's term of office is four years.

Date of the completion of the Interim Report: 30 April 2022

Date of the previous Visitation

Visitation: 26-30 October 2015

Revisitation: 26-28 September 2016

Any major changes which may affect the compliance with the ESEVT Standards since the previous SER

Since 24 February 2017, UVMP has been using its new University Veterinary Hospital with 24-hour operation in the education process. In line with modern teaching trends, UVMP has set up a Clinical Skills Centre with small and large animal models and a new Laboratory for Professional Communication. Students can use modern digital technologies in the form of a virtual patient. In the field of food hygiene and safety, a new laboratory has been built to teach milk hygiene and technology.

Since 2018, UVMP has been governed by Act no. 269/2018 Coll. on Quality Assurance in Higher Education (the Quality Act). The Quality Act established the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education (the Agency) - a public institution whose task is to perform external quality assurance activities in higher education in the Slovak Republic. The mission of the Agency is to

contribute to improving the quality of higher education through modern tools following the ESG (2015). The Agency has taken over the activities of the previous Accreditation Commission. The Agency has adopted new standards for internal system, standards for study programmes, standards for habilitation and inauguration proceedings, and a methodology for the evaluation of standards.

During 2020, in accordance with the new legislation, UVMP prepared and adopted several internal rules of the university:

- Quality assurance in higher education at UVMP,
- General criteria for filling the positions of professor and associate professor at UVMP,
- Principles of the procedure for obtaining scientific and pedagogical titles of associate professor and professor at UVMP,
- Minimum criteria for creative activity when filling the position of university teacher and researcher at the UVMP,
- Competences and duties of teachers at UVMP.

In this context, changes have also been made in the study guidelines of UVMP. In accordance with the Quality Act UVMP has established:

- Accreditation Commission of the UVMP,
- Commission for Creation, Modification and Periodical Evaluation of Study Programmes,
- Commission for habilitation and inauguration proceedings.

In accordance with the Quality Act, UVMP created a web-based "Quality Assessment Portal" to inform working groups of the Slovak Accreditation Agency for Higher Education and the public.

In line with quality assurance based on the implementation of formal procedures comprising a complete qualitative PDCA cycle and on the basis of UVMP's internal rules, the university management evaluated the fulfilment of the long-term strategic plan for the years 2018 - 2023 and updated it. The evaluation of the long-term strategic plan shows that the university meets the goals set.

Progress in the correction of:

-) Major Deficiencies (non-compliance with ESEVT Standards): UVMP does not have any Major Deficiencies.

-) Minor Deficiencies (partial compliance with ESEVT Standards) and plans for the near future

Based on the ECOVE recommendation, UVMP changed its organizational structure and reduced the number of departments, cancelled its institutes and created new research centres and laboratories.

The university is obliged to harmonize its internal system with the Quality Act and the standards for the internal system within 24 months of their entry into force (1 September 2022). It will immediately inform the Agency thereof.

Expected date of the next Visitation (*which should be completed not later than 2 months before the date of the ECOVE meeting preceding the end of granted status*) **March 2025**

Annex: ESEVT Indicators (*focusing on the last three complete academic years*)

UVMP's updated list of indicators (Excel Table) includes data on the last 2 'COVID-free' academic years (2017/2018 and 2018/2019) because the academic year 2019/2020 was significantly affected by the pandemic.