



University of Warsaw

The University of Warsaw is both the largest university and the best research centre in Poland. In its 200-year history, UW has provided education to many scientists, artists and politicians. Among its graduates the university has 6 Nobel Prize winners. The University of Warsaw continues to develop and to pursue the following strategic objectives: strengthening the position of UW as a Poland's leading research centre; maintaining its high ranking among the Central European universities and becoming one of the continent's top universities; gaining international recognition; and continuing a strong impact on its environment.

Community

7 500 employees work at the university. 40 500 undergraduate and graduate students, 2 500 doctoral candidates and 2 100 postgraduate students are educated here. The total number of students and doctoral candidates includes 4 800 international students. Teaching and research are offered not only at 24 faculties and 4 doctoral schools, but also at interdisciplinary units, and academic and research centres.

Education

The range of studies includes programmes in the humanities and social, exact and natural sciences, including individual interdisciplinary studies, 27 English-language programmes and 22 programmes of study run jointly with universities from abroad.

According to international university rankings such as THE, QS, ARWU, UW is among the top 3% of universities in the world. Twelve scientific disciplines run by UW were ranked in the Shanghai's Global Ranking of Academic Subjects 2020, including Physics (51-75) and Mathematics (76-100).

The university was the first Polish university to begin monitoring the careers of its graduates. The results of this monitoring indicate that over 90% of respondents find employment within a year of obtaining a degree.

Research

Currently, the university is focusing on the development of interdisciplinary global-range research projects concerning important social issues. Subsidies from the Ministry of Science and Higher Education as well as domestic and European grants are the main sources of academic research funding. The University of Warsaw is ranked first among the Horizon 2020 beneficiaries in Poland in terms of the number of participants (97) and coordination (19). The most prestigious European research competitions are organised by the European Research Council. In 2007-2019, UW employees have won 16 of the 37 grants given to Polish institutions from ERC.

In 2019, following the competition of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education entitled "Initiative of Excellence – Research University", the University of Warsaw was granted research university status for 2020-2026. The University of Warsaw receives 10% extra on a state subsidy. This boosts the development of five priority research areas and the execution of 70 measures specified in the application.

UW scientists conduct research on socially important issues in cooperation with scientific centres from all over the world. In addition to the flagship programmes under the 4EU+ Alliance, such projects include those implemented within the EIT Food – European Knowledge and Innovation Community in the food sector, which forms part of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology. UW has been a member of EIT Food since 2016. In 2018, UW also initiated a project under the framework of yet another EU Knowledge and Innovation Community – EIT Climate, whose objective is to mitigate and adapt to the consequences of climate change. In 2019, the university was awarded the status of project partner within EIT Raw Materials – a raw materials community.

Since 2016, the University of Warsaw has the right to use the title 'HR Excellence in Research' awarded by the European Commission. The award confirms that the university fulfils the requirements of the European Charter for Researchers.

Cooperation

The university works together with 800 international partners, 680 of which are from over 100 countries

which have signed a bilateral cooperation agreement with UW. The university is an active member of international associations engaged in the integration and development of higher education. It also belongs to 100 global research networks, as well as many consortiums set up to carry out research projects.

UW belongs to the 4EU+ European University Alliance selected by the European Commission for funding in the 'European Universities' call for proposals, launched as part of the 2019 Erasmus+ programme. The 4EU+ Alliance is based on a shared vision for a European University that embraces academic values, ensures equitable access to education, and shapes the next generations of open-minded and critical-thinking citizens to be ready to face and solve global challenges. The 4EU+ mission is to develop a barrier-free and continuously deepening cooperation in education, research, mobility and innovation within the Alliance.

Development

The strategic objectives of the university include enhancing international recognition and building a good position among the top European research universities. The multiannual development plan, which will continue until 2025, makes the most of the potential of the university. It aims to foster research in the humanities and social sciences, tighten up collaboration between faculties and simplify cooperation within the social and economic environment, as well as promote international academic exchange. Thanks to this programme, new buildings will be constructed and others will be refurbished. In 2019, the university carried out work under 10 of investments. The first two were completed – the reconstruction of the basement of the University of Warsaw Library for sports purposes and the reconstruction of the building at Aleje Ujazdowskie 4 for the newly-established Center for Cooperation and Dialogue, which serves as a platform for co-operation and communication between the university and its socio-economic environment.

2018 marked the beginning of the implementation of the university's four-year Integrated Development Programme (ZIP). The programme is designed to support the comprehensive development of the university and includes development of new fields of study and modification of existing curricula; enriching the range of curricula, courses and scholarship programmes for doctoral candidates; organization of classes and training sessions to improve the skills of students and employees; and development of university management IT tools.

Edited by the UW Press Office, 07.2020