

ACTION PLAN FOR IMPROVING THE ACTIVITIES OF VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY BY IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SKVC EXPERT GROUP FOR IMPROVING EVALUATED ACTIVITIES

No.	Recommendations	Measures	Responsible persons	Executors	Terms
I.	Strategic management				
I.1	Consider the way in which University consolidates its identity as a Liberal Arts University that positions itself nationally and internationally, making a unique contribution to the European Academy	Legally consolidate the Artes Liberales status of VMU (in the Statute); improve the study organisation model and the public communication strategy; develop cooperation with foreign Artes Liberales higher education institutions by initiating international projects (ECOLAS networking, Erasmus+).	Rector, Vice-Rector for Studies, Vice-Rector for Public Relations	Quality and Strategy Office, Office of Academic Affairs Office of Marketing and Communication, Office of International Relations	Q2 2016
I.2	Establish a more effective institutional approach to setting strategic targets that are measurable and capable of efficient monitoring and evaluation. This should include establishing quantitative indicators that are measurable and specific to identify progress in the outcomes and impact of key strategic activity	Develop a system of key performance indicators of VMU.	Rector	Quality and Strategy Office	Q1 2015
I.3	Develop strategic targets that address the long-term and mid-term planning to support change management and institutional future positioning	Monitor the performance indicators of VMU and develop a strategic action plan.	Rector	Quality and Strategy Office	Continuing activities
I.4	Reconsider the current approach to risk identification and management that supports visioning a range of possibilities and future scenarios	Carry out a SWOT analysis of the VMU and to identify measures to mitigate the negative impact of external factors.	Rector	Quality and Strategy Office	Q1 2015
I.5	Examine ways of securing more diverse and additional income streams to support the future viability of VMU in a changing demographic, financial, political and academic landscape	Develop a package of VMU services for the public (personal and professional development, retraining services, training, seminars, consultations, online learning, recognition of competences acquired through non-formal learning, outsourced research, expertise-related activities, etc.).	Rector, Vice-Rector for Studies	Quality and Strategy Office, Office of Marketing and Communication, Finance Office	Q4 2015
I.6	Review the role and function of the Centre for Quality and Innovations to strengthen the governance of academic quality and its enhancement across the University	Reorganise the Quality and Innovation Centre into a Quality and Strategy Office (Quality Management Unit, Strategy Monitoring Unit and Career Centre).	Rector	Senate, Council	1 September 2014
I.7	Reduce the dropout rate by ensuring that there is a more effective and systematic overview that tracks and supports individual student progress	Establish a procedure for monitoring student progress and providing support to them (promotion of mentoring – student to student).	Vice-Rector for Studies	Quality and Strategy Office, Office of Student Affairs Office of Academic Affairs	Q4 2015
I.8	Review the way in which external partners contribute to strategic planning. The relationship with social partners and stakeholders at the level of the faculty is very strong, this could be developed to contribute more strategically to the strategic planning of VMU	Update the strategy for cooperation with the social partners at University and unit level.	Rector	Quality and Strategy Office, heads of units	Q4 2015
I.9	Review the centralisation of administration services to explore the potential to build efficiency savings	Carry out an analysis of the need for centralisation of administrative services and develop an action plan.	Rector	Senate, Council	Q4 2014

II.	Academic Studies and Lifelong Learning				
II.1	Review the opportunities for lifelong learning that could be exploited to develop further learning possibilities for the wider community and industry	Develop a package of VMU services for the public (personal and professional development, retraining services, training, seminars, consultations, online learning, recognition of competences acquired through non-formal learning, outsourced research, expertise-related activities, etc.).	Vice-Rector for Studies	Quality and Strategy Office, Institute of Innovative Studies, Institute of Foreign Languages Deans of Faculties	Q4 2015
II.2	Consider whether the choice and flexibility of programmes could be managed to avoid parallel programme development and duplication of programmes that might add to workload demands and costs	Develop quality assurance procedure for intended and ongoing study programmes.	Vice-Rector for Studies	Quality and Strategy Office	Q2 2015
II.3	Develop a more targeted approach to international activity that focuses on the key areas that could increase international students, particularly in the less active faculties	Update the strategy of international activities.	Vice-Rector for Studies, Vice-Rector for Public Relations	Office of International Relations Quality and Strategy Office	Q4 2015
II.4	Consider ways of strengthening the external contribution of benchmarks and external examining (and moderation) in the assessment process to enhance the range of approaches to quality assurance	Establish a quality assurance system for studies and research that is in line with the culture and needs of VMU (preparation of a Quality Manual).	Rector	Quality and Strategy Office	Q4 2015
III.	Research and scholarship				
III.1	Review and consider the function of research in the institution in ways that determine whether the priority is to become the leading research informed liberal arts institution in Europe or a research intensive institution that has international significance and world standing for its research outputs	Commit to expanding research activities and increasing the volume of recognised research output. Use the funding streams allocated to research activities in a targeted way by creating an incentive/motivation system.	Vice-Rector for Research	Research Council	Q1 2016
III.2	Develop and focus on the research priority areas for the University in order to intensify research activity and outputs and meet its strategic direction	Analyse the priority areas of research activities of VMU and develop an action plan.	Vice-Rector for Research	Research Council	Q1 2016
IV.	Impact on regional and national development				
IV.1	Undertake activity to raise its unique profile as a liberal arts University nationally and internationally that signals a significant contribution to Higher Education and the labour market in Lithuania and beyond	Improve the public communication strategy of VMU.	Vice-Rector for Public Relations, Vice-Rector for Development	Quality and Strategy Office, Office of Marketing and Communication, Office of International Relations	Q1 2016
IV.2	Exploit the goodwill towards that exists towards VMU to take forward the liberal arts movement in education and work in strategic partnership with external stakeholders	Develop a strategy to promote liberal arts.	Vice-Rector for Public Relations, Vice-Rector for Development	Quality and Strategy Office, Office of Marketing and Communication, Office of Project Activities	Q2 2016
IV.3	Examine ways of supporting and utilising Alumni in a more systematic way to support the strategic direction of VMU	Systematise the database of VMU alumni; carry out career monitoring surveys of VMU alumni; renew the activities of the VMU Alumni Club (drafting of new statutes, election of the council, establishment of committees); organise VMU Alumni Day.	Vice-Rector for Studies, Vice-Rector for Public Relations	Quality and Strategy Office, Office of Marketing and Communication	Q4 2015