

Georgian Technical University



LEPL GEORGIAN TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING ECONOMIC, MEDIA
TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2018-2024

Tbilisi 2018

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1. Introduction

Proceeding from the goals of Georgian Technical University, the Faculty of Engineering Economic, Media Technology and Social Sciences of Georgian Technical University aims at introduction and development of both Georgian and European educational standards. The educational bachelor's, master's and doctorate programs implemented by the Faculty guarantee integration into the Bologna process and, respectively, preparation of the cadres having highest qualifications of the international level. The activities of the Faculty are based on both internal and external autonomy, academic freedom, unity of teaching, learning and research, and the principles of equality and transparency.

2. Vision and Values of the Faculty

Based on the mission of Georgian Technical University, the objective of the Faculty is to create such an academic environment that will enable a person to be developed as a highly qualified specialist, to be raised as a free and full-fledged member of the democratic world; to facilitate social and academic self-development and self-realization of each member of the Faculty is a binding condition for existence of the modern free and democratic society.

In compliance with the University mission, the Faculty aims at:

- providing high quality of higher academic education, innovative scientific researches in the direction of specialties available at the Faculty (the Faculty will implement and plan educational programs in the following directions: educational programs of Social Sciences, Humanities, interdisciplinary specialties of arts (0801); programs of education and preparation in the Georgian Language);
- introduction and development of flexible system for life-long learning and advance training;
- providing personal academic freedom to the Faculty (including freedom of teaching, learning and doing research of the academic and scientific personnel, students, their unrestricted opportunities for mobility);
- putting education and science in the service of the society and state, internationalization of research and teaching, development of cooperation with higher educational and scientific-research organizations;

- optimization of distribution of functions between the structural and organizational units of the Faculty and collective management system.

Vision of the Faculty of Engineering Economic, Media Technology and Social Sciences:

- The activities of the Faculty are based on the principles of autonomy, academic freedom, unity of teaching, learning and research, equality and transparency, internationalization of teaching and research processes that ensures not only passive sharing of the international experience, but also equal participation in the international scientific achievements;
- To create such educational-pedagogic environment in which the key values of humankind such as freedom and dignity will be realized;
- To create intellectual basis for sustainable development of the country's economy;
- To introduce new organizational units to implement high standard research and teaching facilitating institutional development of the Faculty.
- To develop interdisciplinary teaching and doing research.

Values:

- The autonomy of the Faculty is based on the unity of the Faculty professors-pedagogues and students and implies both external and internal autonomy;
- The unity of teaching, learning and research is a mandatory component for the Faculty as a free academic space, which implies the following: the outcomes of the recent research will be permanently taken into consideration in teaching and learning process, thus making teaching more profound and multisided; this will also attach a larger-scale social meaning to the scientific-research achievements, facilitate fruitful application of scientific research outcomes with public purposes and their adaptation so that to get them introduced into the educational program. Concurrently, students will be actively involved in the analysis of the research processes;
- The principle of equality implies equality of all members of the organization in the education-research process and the Faculty management. Any kind of discrimination is inadmissible.
- Transparency principle implies complete transparency of the Faculty activities, financial activities among others. The Faculty shall be reportable to the University and society.

3. Basis for the Development of the Strategic Plan

In compliance with the Law of Georgia, the University Statute and the Faculty Bylaw, the Faculty shall independently define the priorities of the Faculty development taking into consideration the interests of the strategic development, society, academic and strategic partners.

To provide sustainable social-economic development of the country, all the resources of the Faculty are focused on the development of the directions of educational, scientific and innovative activities.

“Strategic Development Plan of the Faculty of Engineering Economic, Media Technology and Social Sciences” for the years of 2018-2024 has been developed which is fully in compliance with the mission of the University and ensures achievement of strategic goals.

The basis for the Strategic Development Plan of the Faculty of Engineering Economic, Media Technology and Social Sciences (2018-2024) is: Unified Strategy of Education and Science of Georgian 2017-2021; Georgia-EU Association Agreement and principal recommendation documents for a single European educational space; authorization and accreditation standards of higher education institutions; authorization standards of vocational education institution; the mission, vision and values of Georgian Technical University; the experience of the world leading universities of the relevant faculties.

The action program of the new development stage of the Faculty will be based on the strategies of the long-term Action Plan for the development of Georgian Technical University, i.e. key paradigms of the European education environment, known as processes of Bologna, Lisbon, Copenhagen process and Lisbon concept, which on its part is the strategy of sustainable development of the Faculty.

The Action Plan of the Faculty envisages provision of competitiveness of the graduates on the labor market.

The Strategic Development Plan encompasses such issues as: to ensure compliance of educational programs with the current and future requirements of the labor market and academic-intellectual development of the country; to improve the quality and accessibility of education at all teaching levels; to prepare employment oriented competent qualified personnel; to observe

the principle of lifelong education, to support internationalization; to enhance the social and cultural role of the Faculty and to develop universal democratic and liberal values and law awareness; to improve educational infrastructure.

4. Case Study

In order to become integrated into European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and Research Area (ERA), to develop education level and internationalize educational system, the Faculty of Engineering Economic, Media Technology and Social Sciences has taken the following steps: three-tier teaching system of higher education has been put into action, European Credits Transfer System (ECTS), the standards of internal and external quality provision have been upgraded, educational programs have been put into compliance with the national qualification framework and accreditation requirements, the students' mobility system and academic personnel have been enhanced.

The Faculty plans to prepare professional programs; it will also do its best so that vocational education not to be considered as a field of narrow professional knowledge and skills, but as a lifelong learning, self-realization, social welfare, employment and self-employment support system.

The Case Study of the country's educational area confirms that one of the key aspects of the higher education and professional education on labor market is involvement of students in scientific-research and practical activities.

In this regard, the Faculty provides students with such academic and industrial practices, which will enable them to verify, enhance and develop knowledge and skills, to bring the competences acquired in the academic environment closer to the realistic requirements of the labor market, to realize the opportunities and challenges of the potential future work, to be involved in the labor market in the conditions of equal opportunities as a competitive entity.

There are several weaknesses on the Faculty, the most important of which is: the issue of internationalization, the lesser involvement of the employer in the process of development and modification of educational programs; the Faculty infrastructure calls for improvement: the classrooms, laboratories, faculty rooms, quality management service, managerial service, dean's

office, corridors and storerooms require refurbishment and furnishing with modern furniture. In addition, the classrooms shall be equipped with the technique for electronic teaching.

5. SWOT Analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experienced and highly qualified academic, scientific and auxiliary personnel; • Educational programs accredited for all three-tier higher education both in the Georgian and foreign languages; • Modern centralized examination centers; • Online support mechanisms for students; • Experience in participation in scientific-research projects; • Involvement of doctorate students in the teaching process; • Environmental support to the student life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small-scale involvement of graduates and employers in the process of designing and development of the training programs; • Low demand of foreign students on the educational services; • Non-existence of students' social infrastructure (hostels); • Low level of involvement of some of the departments in the international projects; • Not systematic interdisciplinary teaching and researches; • Low level of tuition collection due to social situation. Non-existence of students' preferential and long-term loans; • No participation in largescale international scientific projects; • Non-existence of vocational programs; • A wide experience in participation in exchange programs. ესძლიერი მხარე ხომ არ არის?
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attracting foreign students; • Implementing student projects; • Improving logistics; • Creating student career center; • Topic oriented teaching; • Involvement of foreign acting and emeritus professors in the teaching-research process; • Development of lifelong learning; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of infrastructure relevant to modern European standards.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of interdisciplinary teaching and research. | |
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6. Priority Directions and Strategic Goals for the Faculty Development

I Priority Direction – Institutional Development;

II Priority Direction – Development of Quality Oriented Educational and Scientific-Research Activities;

III Priority Direction – Creation of Supporting Environment for Campus Life;

IV Priority Direction – Development of Foreign Relations and Support to Internationalization.

Strategic Development Goals

I Strategic Goal – Improvement of Management Quality System;

II Strategic Goal – Development of Human and Financial Resource

III Strategic Goal – Planning of Students’ Contingence;

IV Strategic Goal- Increase in Institutional Efficiency through the Development of Infrastructure and Material-Technical Base

V Strategic Goal – Quality Assurance of Learning and Teaching

VI Strategic Goal -Development of Lifelong Teaching;

VII Strategic Goal – Support of Scientific-Research and Creative Activities;

VIII Strategic Goal – Development of Students’ Services;

IX Strategic Goal – Enhancing the Degree of Internationalization and International Recognition;

X Strategic Goal – Development of Public Relations.

I Priority Direction – Institutional Development

The key priority of the institutional development is to develop new academic units that will facilitate improvement of educational-research process on the Faculty.

Hence, below are given goals and objectives of set priority directions:

Goal 1

Improvement of the Management Quality System

Objectives:

- Creation of the technological platform system for the Faculty management; improvement of essential characteristics of the decision making and forecasting fields;
- Identification of the relative values for the Faculty administration's non-academic positions, compilation and updating of classification methodology;
- Development of the unified electronic system of the Faculty management and improvement of relevant indicators;
- Introduction of internal monitoring mechanisms and improvement of relevant indicators.

Goal 2

Development of Human and Financial Resources

Objectives

- Goal oriented application of human resources in the Faculty management activities;
- Ensuring financial stability;

- Increase in commercialization.

Goal 3

Planning of Students' Contingence

Objectives:

- Identifying optimal number of annual student body;
- Improving ratio of student body, human and material resources in compliance with the standards.

Goal 4

Increase in Institutional Efficiency through the Development of Infrastructure and Material-Technical Base

Objectives:

- Modernization and renewal of library services;
- Upgrading and creating experimental scientific-research and teaching laboratories;
- Reorganization of catering and healthcare objects;
- Renovation of movable and immoveable property and development of policy for their targeted application;
- Bringing the infrastructure and material-technical base for students and personnel with disabilities in compliance;
- Setting up media archive.

II Priority Direction - Development of Quality Oriented Educational and Scientific-Research Activities

The quality assurance policy is based on teaching, learning and research unity principle. Concurrently, development of topic oriented instead of discipline oriented educational activities on the international level is of utmost importance.

Expansion of research innovative area, directing the research activities toward the resolution of important problems having practical nature is significant for the economic and social advancement of the country. Hence, the following goals and objectives have been set:

Goal 5

Quality Assurance of Learning and Teaching

Objectives

- To plan and implement educational programs in compliance with accreditation standards;
- To plan vocational education programs;
- To introduce international program accreditation of training programs and to internationalize teaching;
- To enhance quality to support professional development of the academic personnel;
- To introduce and develop teaching methods for students with disabilities.

Goal 6

Development of Lifelong Learning

Objectives

- Creation of electronic teaching methods to ensure both largescale and high-quality indicators of lifelong education and its practical application in the Faculty activities;
- Drafting, testing and dissemination of research based continuous pilot programs;
- Non-stop survey of labor and education markets and based on the results obtained targeted teaching of the cadre in demand by means of experienced methods for lifelong education.

Goal 7

Support of Scientific-Research and Creative Activities

Objectives:

- To develop links with local and world leading scientific-research institutes to increase the Faculty's scientific potential;
- Effective administration of planning and implementation of scientific research activities;
- To develop mechanisms for disclosure and avoidance of plagiarism facts.

III Priority Direction - Creation of Supporting Environment for Campus Life

To enhance students' involvement in the academic activities of the Faculty. To reform students' self-governance in compliance with the western standards.

Goal 8

Development of Students' Services

Objectives:

- To explore students' individual skills;
- To involve students in the process of the Faculty management and drafting and improving educational programs;
- To support students' involvement in scientific-research activities and grants;
- To increase students' international mobility;
- To support students with disabilities;
- To encourage students having high academic achievements;
- To coordinate students' activities, programs and ideas developed by student organizations and to defend their interests before relevant structures.

IV Priority Direction Development of Foreign Relations and Support to Internationalization

To increase international recognition of the Faculty. To develop interdisciplinary research and teaching based on internationalization of teaching and research as one of the significant provisions for internationalization.

One of the key objectives for the long-term development of the Faculty is integration into the international educational area and provision of global competitiveness.

In compliance with the priorities mentioned above, the goals and objectives for the development of foreign relations and support to internationalization have been identified.

Goal 9

Enhancing the Degree of Internationalization and International Recognition

Objectives:

- To expand international collaboration networks with leading academic organizations (scientific and research institutions); to establish new partnership and collaborative relations and develop existing relationships to facilitate the internationalization process;
- To ensure more involvement in the international and local programs; to introduce joint research practices;
- To attract foreign students and academic-scientific personnel.

Goal 10

Development of Public Relations

Objectives:

- To develop partnership relations with local government and non-governmental organizations;
- To disseminate knowledge among the society members;
- Informational support to and management of the Faculty official communication channels.

7. Required Resources to Implement Strategic Goals

Human Resources

Administrative personnel

Academic personnel

Invited teachers

Auxiliary personnel

Material Resources

Buildings and premises – total area - 4300 m²;

Low price organizational equipment - 4000 GEL.

8. Monitoring Mechanism for Strategic Plan Implementation

The monitoring over the Strategic Plan implementation is implemented by the Faculty Board that listen to the fulfillment report of the annual plans and react relevantly.

Currently improvement of control mechanism for Strategic and Action Plan implementation is underway. Particularly, Quality Assurance Service together with the manager periodically reviews implementation of the plan, asks for locally reviewed annual self-assessment from the structural units and studies its compliance with the reality. Obtained results and recommendations will be submitted to the Faculty Dean to be discussed at the Faculty Board and to be reacted to.