



Assessment Report about the On-Site Visit

on November 16th/17th and December 14th/15th, 2022

External Institutional Evaluation

"Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad, Romania

AHPGS Akkreditierung gGmbH

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Table of Contents

1	Introduction to the External Institutional Evaluation.....	3
1.1	Basic information on the Evaluation process	3
1.2	Expert Group	8
2	Expert Report	11
2.1	On-site visits	11
2.2	General information about the HEI.....	12
2.3	Assessment Areas	15
2.3	Conclusion	33
3	Annex 1 Schedule on-site visit:	38
4	Annex 2 Complete list of experts involved in the different steps of the evaluation process	41

1 Introduction to the External Institutional Evaluation

1.1 Basic information on the Evaluation process

The main aim of the External Institutional Evaluation in higher education is to enhance the quality of teaching, research and services at Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The evaluations emphasize the responsibility of the Universities for quality assurance of their study programs following the European understanding of institutional autonomy in higher education. Standardized procedures help to objectively assess the performances of the evaluated universities and facilitate international recognition of these universities and their study programs.

The "Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad has assigned to the AHPGS the execution of an External Institutional Evaluation in order to assess the University's internal mechanisms and quality management processes. The proceedings of this evaluation conform to the "Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area" (ESG) and "The Guide of the Activities of Quality Evaluation for University Study Programs and Higher Education Institutions: Part I Evaluation Guide for Externally Accredited Study Programs" and "External Assessment Methodology, Standards, Reference Standards, and List of Indicators performance of the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education ". As agreed in the contract between AHPGS and "Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad (signed on April 29th, 2022), the proceedings for the External Institutional Evaluation are based on the "General Information on Institutional Audit and Quality Assurance Procedures" (Resolution of the Board of AHPGS of February 14th, 2013).

The AHPGS is a member of international associations and networks, namely the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA), the European Consortium for Accreditation in Higher Education (ECA), the Network of Central and Eastern European Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (CEENQA) and the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE). The AHPGS is also listed in the European Quality Assurance Register (EQAR).

As an organization, the AHPGS is an independent body.

Any external evaluation criteria applied by the AHPGS are in accordance with criteria and requirements which are based on the "Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area" (ESG) as established by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA).

The criteria address general areas for evaluation when implementing external quality assurance procedures at HEIs. The central focus of the external evaluation procedure is the assessment of the following areas:

Area A. Profile, objectives and strategy of the institution

Area B. Quality assurance and quality management system

Area C. Institutional management and administration

Area D. Educational activities, including study programs

Area E. Infrastructure and functional resources

The External Institutional Evaluation is divided into the following steps:

1.) **A self-evaluation report** was submitted by the University on July 12th, 2022. The following **documents** were provided by the University in addition to the SER:

Annex	Description
Annex 01	University Charter
Annex 02	Strategic Plan 2020-2024
Annex 03	Rectors Management Plan 2020-2024
Annex 04	Operational Plan 2021-2022
Annex 05	Code of Ethics
Annex 06	Commission of Ethics in Scientific Research
Annex 07	Methodology Admission 2022-2023
Annex 08	Regulation on students professional activities
Annex 09	ECTS Regulation
Annex 10	Methodology Bachelor and Dissertation Exams
Annex 11	Report of the Counselling and Career Guidance Center
Annex 12	Scholarship System

Annex 13	Erasmus Mobilities
Annex 14	International Addiliations
Annex 15	Educational Offer 2022/2023
Annex 16	Evaluation Teaching Staff
Annex 17	Report on the Graduates Insertion on the Labor Market
Annex 18	Alumnus Employment Tracking Form
Annex 19	Law No. 240
Annex 20	Organizational Chart
Annex 21	Annual Report of the Rector
Annex 22	Self-Evaluation of Staff Members
Annex 23	Infrastructure
Annex 24	International Partners
Annex 25	Erasmus Regulations
Annex 26	Institutional Partners
Annex 27	Budget
Annex 28	Quality Policy
Annex 29	Quality Assurance Code
Annex 30	Quality Manual
Annex 31	Commission for Quality Assurance
Annex 32	Department for Quality Assurance
Annex 33	Structure of the University
Annex 34	Commission for Quality Assurance and Evaluation Faculties
Annex 35	IT Infrastructure
Annex 36	Students Evaluations of Teaching Activities
Annex 37	Brochure

Annex 38	Students Guide
Annex 39	Quality Certificates
Annex 40	Examination Procedure
Annex 41	Subject Descriptions
Annex 42	Procedure for Academic Staff Peer Review
Annex 43	Procedure for Assessment of Courses
Annex 44	Self-Evaluation of Staff Members
Annex 45	Procedure for Teaching Staff Evaluation
Annex 46	Methodology of Elections
Annex 47	Members of the Board of Directors
Annex 48	Rule Board of Directors
Annex 49	Competition Methodology
Annex 50	Procedure for approving Curricula
Annex 51	Anti-Plagiarism Regulation
Annex 52	Study Program Description
Annex 53	Model of Curriculum
Annex 54	Government Decision 433/2022
Annex 55	Government Decision 434/2022
Annex 56	Regulations IODAS
Annex 57	International Students
Annex 58	Tuition Fees
Annex 59	Financial Policies
Annex 60	Diploma Supplement
Annex 61	Recognition Periods of Studies abroad
Annex 62	Admission Methodology EU

Annex 63	Admission Methodology Non-EU
Annex 64	Sample Grade Register
Annex 65	Regulation of Examination
Annex 66	Regulations on Initiating, approving, monitoring and regular Evaluation of Study Programs
Annex 67	Entrepreneurial Partners
Annex 68	Model of Internship Convention
Annex 69	Coordinators of the Study Program
Annex 70	Library
Annex 71	Members of the Senate
Annex 72	Career Coucelling and Guidance Center
Annex 73	Scholarships
Annex 74	Expert Report AHPGS 2017
Annex 75	Students League Activities
Annex 76	Strategy of Scientific Research
Annex 77	Operational Plan Research Activity 2020-2021
Annex 78	Research Projects
Annex 79	ISI Articles
Annex 80	Candidate Guide for online Admission
Annex 81	International, National and Local Events organized by VGWU
Annex 82	New Erasmus Agreements

2.) The AHPGS has reviewed the presented documentation and its compliance with the University's strategies and objectives. The Accreditation Commission of the AHPGS has nominated **the expert group**. In October 2022, the complete documentation submitted by the University was forwarded to the nominated expert group which has reviewed the documents based on the aforementioned criteria

as well as substantive aspects. In November 2022, the expert group has produced a document-based written evaluation of the Institution, to determine particular strengths and weaknesses, and to identify any open questions regarding the Higher Education Institution (HEI) in writing. The experts' statements based on these evaluations were used for the preparation of the on-site visit at the University.

- 3.) **The on-site visit** took place on November 16th and 17th, 2022 according to a previously agreed-upon schedule (*see Annex 1*). Representatives from the central office of the AHPGS accompanied the expert group during the meeting. Prior to the meeting with the University, the expert group met on November 14th, 2022 for the initial discussion and briefing by the APHGS. They discussed the submitted application documents (self-evaluation report and appendices) and the results of the written evaluations, as well as any procedure-related questions and foreseeable issues. Furthermore, the group finalized the plan for the meeting with the University members. During the on-site visit, the experts had transparent, productive and in-depth discussions with the representatives of the University management, faculty representatives, program representatives, as well as with a group of students currently enrolled at the University. Furthermore, the experts assessed the study facilities and the equipment in the teaching laboratories. They discussed a comprehensive spectrum of education-related issues with representatives of the University. Moreover, the consistency of the submitted documentation was verified. Additional aspects were also reviewed, open questions were identified and additional information/documentation was requested from the University.
- 4.) Following the visit, the expert group has produced an **Expert Report**; it sums up the key aspects and preliminary outcomes of the visits and the reviewed documents. The summary concludes the **strengths and weaknesses of the Institution and also encompasses a list of recommendations** for further development of the University. The University has the opportunity to comment on the Expert Report.

1.2 Expert Group

The following experts who participated in the on-site visit were appointed by the accreditation commission of the AHPGS for the External Institutional Evaluation process:

Silvio Christoffel

University of Konstanz, Germany

Student of Politics and Public Administration

Prof. Dr. Günter Friesenhahn

Koblenz University of Applied Sciences, Germany

Senior Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences

Visiting Professor at Dipartimento di Filosofia e Beni Culturali der Università

Ca'Foscari, Venice

Prof. Dr. Marion Halfmann

Niederrhein University of Applied Sciences, Moenchengladbach, Germany

Professor of Business Administration Marketing and Sales

Internationalisation Officer

Formerly: Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, Kleve, Germany

Vice President for Teaching, Learning and Further Education

Prof. Dr. Bjoern Maier

Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University Mannheim, Germany

Dean of Students, Professor for Business Administration, Director of Studies

Health Care Management and Controlling

Prof. Dr. Carolin Sutter¹

SRH University of Applied Sciences Heidelberg, Germany

Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, Study Program Director Business Law (LL.B.) of Business Administration Marketing and Sales

¹ The experts shown in italics did not participate in the on-site visit of the University.

Prof. Dr. Burkhard von Velsen-Zerweck

Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences, Germany

Professor of Service Economics and Management, Department of Business Administration

Member of several national and international research communities, such as the "Global Services Network (GSN)", the "Service Operations Management Area (SOMA)" and the Coordination Office for Services (KDL) of the German Institute for Standardization (DIN) in Berlin.

Prof. Dr. Jana Wolf

Aalen University, Germany

Professor at Aalen University, Department of Healthcare Management

Healthcare Economics fellow position with focus on pharmaceuticals (valuation, cost effectiveness studies)

2 Expert Report

2.1 On-site visits

The on-site visits took place at the Vasile Goldiș University of Arad, Romania. It is a private university which was founded in 1990 and accredited by the Romanian Law no. 240/2002.

The University currently offers 40 Bachelor degree programs, 17 Master degree programs and two doctoral schools for Biology and Medicine. The study programs are offered, in addition to the campus in Arad, in the cities of Sebis, Satu Mare, Baia Mare, Zalău and Marghita. There are branch managers at each campus who ensure the operative management of these branches. The branch manager and the responsible person for a program are in permanent contact with the University, Faculty and Department management bodies who participate in the management meeting in Arad. The curricula of study programs are consistent from location to location.

During the on-site visit on November 16th and 17th, 2022, the expert group had talks with the management of the University.

Topics were the governance of the University; its profile, strategy, staff, resources of the departments and faculties, the study programs and support offers.

The University prepared a brief presentation of the development of the institution:

In addition to the University management, the quality assurance staff, the deans and the Erasmus Representative were present.

Topics were the organization of quality assurance and its significance; quality assurance in teaching and learning at the faculties and of the study programs; quality assurance in research at the faculties and the documentation of results and implementation of measures.

The expert group was given a tour of the faculties, e.g. working premises of students and staff, research conditions, library, cafeteria, offices, laboratories etc.

Additionally, the expert group interviewed student representatives of each faculty.

Topics were the experience of the students at the University, the faculties and in the study programs. Additionally, they were asked about the academic demands, professional qualifications and personal development, availability of resources, means of

support (tutorials, mentoring programs, advisory service, etc.) and their personal experiences with quality assurance procedures.

2.2. General information about the HEI

"Vasile Goldiș" Western University in Arad, Romania is a private institution of higher education. The institution has a geographical organization of branches/extensions and an educational offer that covers a wide spectrum of scientific fields. At the same time, "Vasile Goldiș" University of the West of Arad, Romania is a full member of the national higher education system in Romania, asserting itself during its 32 years of operation in the international academic system. The founding act of the Western University "Vasile Goldiș" in Arad, Romania is Law no. 240/2002 which specifies that it is a "higher education institution, legal person with preempted right and public utility, part of the national education system". In fact, "Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad, was founded in 1990. It is noted that the University assumes responsibility for the knowledge imparted to the students, for the future of the University's teaching staff and employees, for the quality of the research activity, as well as for the transparency of the operation. Especially in recent years, the University has made efforts to comply with the requirements and standards of an institution that pays attention to the training of specialists in accordance with the requirements of the labor market in parallel with the activity of scientific research.

Currently, the academic structure of the University consists of six faculties and Institution Organizing of Doctoral Academic Studies (IODAS) with two Doctoral Schools:

- Faculty of Medicine,
- Faculty of Dentistry,
- Faculty of Pharmacy,
- Faculty of Economics, Computer Science and Engineering,
- Faculty of Social Sciences, Humanities and Physical Education and Sports,
- Faculty of Law,
- Doctoral School of Medicine,
- Doctoral School of Biology.

Within the faculties there are organized departments:

Department of General Medicine, Department of Biology and Life Sciences, Department of Training in Residence and Postgraduate Studies – Faculty of Medicine;

Department of Dentistry – Faculty of Dentistry;

Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences - Faculty of Pharmacy;

Department of Economic and Technical Sciences - Faculty of Economics, Computer Science and Engineering ;

Department of Social Sciences and Humanities, Department of Teacher Training - Faculty of Social Sciences, Humanities and Physical Education and Sports.

The University has five branches in: Satu-Mare, Baia-Mare, Zalău, Marghita and Sebis.

The Organizational Chart of the HEI also comprises: General Administrative Directorate, Financial and Accounting Directorate, Legal Directorate, Human Resources Directorate, General Secretariat, Department for Academic Recruitment And Educational Management, IT Department, University Complex of Multicultural and Heritage Studies, Department for International Relations, Office for Strategies and Audit, Department for Quality Assurance, Operative Centre for Supervising The Quality Assurance in Education and Scientific Research, Department for the Institution Organising Master Academic, Centre for Career Counselling and Guidance, Students' Consultative Council, "Vasile Goldiș University Press" Publishing House, British Language Center, UVVG Institution Organising Doctoral Academic Studies (IODAS), Commission for Quality Assurance, Commission for Ethics And Professional Deontology, Commission for Ethics In Scientific Research, Central Library, Scientometric Office.

The research activity is carried out within the "Aurel Ardelean" Institute of Life Sciences, research/ study centers, such as : Botanical Garden "Pavel Covaci" Macea, Pharmacognostic Research Center, Bioethics and Social Studies Center, Center of Microscopy in Dentistry (bio-medical and pharmaceutical research fields); Research center in socio-humanistic sciences, Center for German Studies "Friedrich Schiller", Center for Bioethics and Social Studies, Center for Jewish Studies (socio-human research fields); Center for Research in Finance and Accounting, the Research Center for Marketing and Business Administration, the Research Center for Ecology and the Economic Environment, ITA GOLDTECH business incubator, and Entrepreneurship Center (economic field).

Regarding the study programs functioning within the HEI, for the academic year 2022-2023, according to G.D. 433/2022, published in the Official Gazette 328 bis, there are 40 undergraduate study programs, covering 19 areas of BA fields of study and, according to G.D. 434/2022, published in the Official Gazette 333 bis, there are 17 master

programs of study, covering 12 areas of MA fields and two doctoral schools (Medicine and Biology).

The table below presents the evolution of the number of study programs during the period 2017-2023:

EVOLUTION OF THE STUDY PROGRAMS 2017-2023

ACADEMIC YEAR/ LEVEL OF STUDY	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023
BA study programs	41	41	41	41	43	40
MA study programs	25	25	25	25	26	17
PhD studies	2	2	2	2	2	2
TOTAL VGWU	68	68	68	68	71	59

Regarding the number of students, in the academic year 2021/2022, the total number of enrolled students is 4711. The repartition of the students is presented in the table below:

NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN 2021/2022

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021/2022	
LEVEL OF STUDY	NUMBER OF STUDENTS ENROLLED
BA STUDY PROGRAMS	3832
MA STUDY PROGRAMS	513
PhD	61

RESIDENCY	30
TEACHER TRAINING DEPARTMENT	188
POSTGRADUATE SPECIALIZATION PROGRAMS	87
TOTAL	4711

In the last five years since the previous institutional evaluation, the number of students was relatively constant. Thus, after a decrease in the academic year 2019/2020 (3982 students), the number of students has stabilized and even increased in the academic years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE NO. OF STUDENTS 2017-2022

ACADEMIC YEAR	2021-2022	2020-2021	2019-2020	2017-2018	2016-2017
BA	3832	3609	3679	4580	4729
MA, PhD, Postgraduate	879	738	303	640	655
TOTAL VGWU	4711	4347	3982	5220	5384

2.3 Assessment Areas

Area A. Profile, objectives and strategy of the institution

The HEI has established a clear profile and its mission and strategy are congruent to it. It developed a corresponding strategic plan and formulated short, medium and

long-term development plans. It set future-oriented goals and developed feasible strategies for implementing these. The objectives formulated by the HEI can be traced back to its overall strategy and development plans, which are internally and externally oriented. All personnel – teaching and non-teaching – and groups of students are actively involved in the HEI's strategy. They are aware of and work towards achieving the goals established by the HEI. External stakeholders also participate in the HEI's strategy. Institutional autonomy is a key value within the HEI. Academic freedom, diversity, research, teaching and corporate responsibility are encouraged within the institution.

Evaluation

The Vasile Goldiș Western University of Arad, Romania is a private institution of higher education. The institution has a geographical organization of branches/extensions and an educational offer that covers a wide spectrum of scientific fields. At the same time, Vasile Goldiș Western University of Arad, Romania is a full member of the national higher education system in Romania, asserting itself during its 32 years of operation in the international academic system. The founding act of the Vasile Goldiș Western University of Arad, Romania is Law no. 240/2002 which specifies that it is a "higher education institution, legal person with preempted right and public utility, part of the national education system".

The Vasile Goldiș Western University of Arad, Romania was founded in 1990. It is noted that the University assumes responsibility for the knowledge transferred to the students, for the future of the University's teaching staff and employees, for the quality of the research activity, as well as for the transparency of its functioning.

The Vasile Goldis Western University of Arad is a private, community based university with strong links to the local labor market and the local authorities. It is a modern University and has a coherent vision (as outlined in the "University Charter") as well as a mission and strategy which are operationalized in action plans (outlined in a strategic, managerial and operational plan).

The general mission of the University, stated in the University Charter and Strategic Plan, is to provide education and scientific research by promoting excellence in order to create and disseminate knowledge to society.

The University Charter was established according to the National Education Law no. 1/2011 and adopted by the Senate after the positive resolution of the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research regarding the legality opinion and it constitutes the fundamental act that draws the lines and directions of the organization and the functioning of the institution, establishes the relationship between the Founder (Vasile Goldiș University Foundation from Arad) and the University, defines the mission, principles, functions, basic objectives, academic and organizational structure of the university. All aspects of a quality academic life are presented in the Charter: mission, objectives, organization, functioning. The University Code of Ethics and Professional Deontology, the Regulation on the Professional Activity of Students, the Code of Student Rights and Obligations, the Competition Regulation for Teaching Positions, the Election Methodology, as well as other regulations, guides and methodologies for the efficient conduct of activities are mentioned as annexes from the University.

The objective of the University is quality assurance of education through a student-focused education. The strategic goals are achieved based on the strategic development plan of the University.

Vasile Goldis University has a strong focus in the medical field, with local, national and international goals. After discussions with the University, it became clear for the experts how this profile interfaces with the domains of economy or law. Still, the experts opine that the number of study programs is quite high and their range is very diversified. The experts recommend to think about the target groups for each study program and make it more visible in the University's profile. Furthermore, the University should prepare for a further decrease in numbers of students in the next years due to demographic changes in Romania. The experts recommend to develop a strategic plan to manage the declining student numbers and the financial loss that might result.

The strategy refers to teaching, research, internationalization and management. From the experts' point of view, the research strategy contains good ideas such as forming doctoral schools. It is also evident that the modern life science center offers highest quality research. The research activities of Vasile Goldis University became clear during the visit on-site. Nevertheless, the experts highlight that the University should further prioritize the research activities in its strategy. Internationalization should be enhanced further in order to increase the attractiveness of Vasile Goldis University for an audience outside Romania. Internationalization is discussed in Assessment Area D more deeply.

Vasile Goldis University complies with national regulations but assures also compatibility with the European Bologna area (e.g. ECTS, Diploma supplement, nomenclature of degrees, learning outcome driven curricula, etc.). From the experts' point of view, institutional autonomy is a key value within this higher education institution. Regarding the aspect of academic freedom, the University has regulations, especially chapter III of the Internal Regulation of the University, the Code of Ethics and Academic Professional Deontology (Art. 5 etc.) and in Section 4 of the "University Charter" as well as in the "University Code of the Rights and the Obligations of the Students of Vasile Goldis Western University of Arad".

The aspect of diversity and students' rights regarding disabilities and chronic illnesses are also regulated by art. 5 of the "University Code of the Rights and the Obligations of the Students of Vasile Goldis Western University of Arad". The University states that it supports students who come from unfavorable environments (such as foster homes) as well as students with disabilities and chronic illnesses by granting them educational scholarships, social scholarships and partially or totally waiving their tuition fees. Moreover, individual strategies for each particular case are adopted so that the implementation of student-centered learning and teaching respects and attends to the diversity of students and their needs, enabling flexible learning paths.

Area B. Quality assurance and quality management system

The HEI develops a quality management system and has clearly-defined objectives. It implements policies and procedures for quality assurance and promotes a quality assurance culture. This follows a quality control loop (PDCA Cycle). Tasks are responsibly divided among the bodies and personnel at the HEI. The quality assurance mechanisms are designed to accomplish the set objectives. Effectiveness is constantly monitored and enhancement is sought. Internal quality assurance includes evaluation mechanisms that are run regularly and cover all areas of activity within the HEI. The evaluation results are documented and made public. Internal steering processes are identifiable and aim at sustained improvement. The HEI continuously develops plans for improving the quality management system, which is integrated into the HEI's strategic plan. It works at different organizational levels and involves all the HEI's staff.

Evaluation

The University has built up a rigorous internal quality assurance system with clearly defined objectives. According to the Self-Evaluation Report, a quality assurance system is sustained at the University by the activity of the following structural components: Commission for Quality Evaluation and Assurance (CEAC), the Commissions for Quality Assurance in the Faculty, the Vice-Rector for Strategy and Quality Management and the Department for Quality Assurance (DAC), the Heads of the Study Programs.

The system has been implemented; structures, responsibilities and procedures are in place. Furthermore, the University has established a regulatory "Code of Quality Assurance of Education", with predilection on teaching and learning, learning environment, relevant links with research and innovation in the University. The term "quality assurance" in this code is used to describe all activities in the cycle of continuous improvement, so that the study programs and the services offered meet the expectations of beneficiaries (internal and external stakeholders). The IQM system respects the European standards and guidelines for quality assurance (ESG). Each faculty has an evaluation commission whose members have to be reapproved annually through the faculty council (see Annex 2). The University also has a Quality Assurance Department as

required by Romanian law. Additionally, each faculty provides internal reports as requested per the Romanian National Standards.

Moreover, the University has a "Quality Assurance Manual" at its disposal which presents the quality policy and refers to the procedures of the quality assurance system. Moreover, it describes interactions between the processes of the system and presents the structure of documentation used within the quality management system. The Quality Manual is structured according to SR ISO 10 013:2003. Feedback loops are foreseen. A management information system is built up and profits from modern IT-structures.

The experts take note that the IQS of Vasile Goldiș University is based on ISO norms and follows a Total-Quality-Management approach. The University also publishes evaluation results. The experts appreciate the university's continued development in the area of quality assurance.

The University presents an annual CEAC Report on the implementation of the provisions of the quality policy program, which reveals the positive and negative aspects of the internal quality assurance that it makes public.

The initiation and approval of new study programs is carried out only after obtaining the financing agreement from the Board of Directors, and the review and modification of ongoing study programs is done after their internal evaluation. Study program changes approved positively by the Board of Directors are then debated in the Senate, entering into force from the following academic year.

The curricula of the study programs are revised according to the requirements of the labor market and economic agents.

An evaluation by the management of the teaching staff is carried out annually, which is based on a multi-criteria self-evaluation, the requirements of which are set by the Senate, and the results are recorded in the self-evaluation sheet of the teaching staff. The peer review is carried out annually, based on a peer review procedure.

The programming, the processing and the recording of information is carried out at the level of the departments, the management of the respective faculty of the university receiving the synthetic report.

The evaluation by the students is coordinated at the faculty level and is carried out on the basis of a questionnaire for the evaluation of teaching staff by the students. The

results are centralized at the department level and are brought to the attention of the heads of the departments.

The University uses an IT system to create databases regarding educational and research activities and institutional quality assurance. Under the guidance of the director responsible for computerization and communication issues, at the central level and at the level of the faculties there is the IT Department, which has attributions in the implementation of computer programs, the maintenance of computer systems, etc., according to the regulation on the organization and operation of the IT Department.

The university management is concerned with the continuous improvement of existing IT systems, which are developed according to needs.

The university, the faculties and the departments provide information of public interest in the spaces allocated on the web pages regarding the study programs, admission criteria, number of places, fees, about how to organize the education process, the system of transferable credits, Erasmus+ mobilities, the methodology of completing the studies, regulations and procedures and other aspects of its activity.

During the last Institutional Evaluation in 2017, the experts discussed the small number of students in some study programs with the University. The experts recommended to monitor the number of students and define a critical mass of students for each program. The University states that it is currently monitoring student enrollment in each program and if necessary, responding by pausing the program or closing the branch. The experts support this approach.

The experts further discuss the implementation of interdisciplinary Master study programs. The University could benefit from its knowledge in the medical field to implement new study programs like healthcare management or related fields of study. The experts recommend to consider the new field of study within the national legal requirements of Romania.

Area C. Institutional management and administration

The HEI's organizational structure demonstrates a clear and transparent division of responsibilities, duties and authorities. External stakeholders, students and other relevant parties are involved in the administrative and decision-making processes and the organizational structure responds to the strategy and objectives set by the HEI. The HEI regulates the division of tasks and responsibilities, which are unambiguous and transparent. Members of the HEI are aware of their tasks and responsibilities. Information systems are developed for monitoring and evaluating the effective management of the study programs and all other activities within the HEI. The qualification and experience of the personnel are adequate to ensure the proper operation of the HEI and the appropriateness of HEI employees.

Evaluation

The "Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad has a coherent, integrated and transparent system of academic management which relies on an effective management, committed to fulfil the mission and objectives of the University. The University's leading structures and position, the duration of the mandates, the way of functioning, as well as other considerations related to their statute are established in the Charter of the University, certified by the founding members, certified accordingly by the Board of Directors and approved by the University Senate (outlined in the "University Charter").

According to the legal regulations in force and the Charter, the management structure of the University is:

The Senate chaired by the president - which is the University's management, decision-making and academic deliberation structure.

The Board of Directors, chaired by the president (rector) appointed by the founders - ensures the operational management of the University, having exclusive decision-making powers regarding the University's patrimony, with all its related rights, as well as organizational, regulatory, economic-financial, training and allocation powers of resources on priorities, in order to fulfill the mission assumed by the University.

At the faculty level, the governing structure is the Faculty Council, chaired by the dean, and at the department level, the department Council, led by the Head of department.

The leadership positions of rector, vice-rectors, deans and department directors within the University are provided by tenured teaching staff, having teaching degrees of professor, associate professor or head of studies/lecturers with the scientific title of doctor, selected by elections at intervals of 4 years .

Elections in management positions are conducted according to legal norms and internal regulations. For the period 2020–2024, the elections were carried out according to the Methodology for organizing and conducting the referendum for the election of the rector, the Methodology for organizing and conducting elections and the Methodology for the competition for the appointment of deans. The way of subordinating the functions and responsibilities at the level of academic and administrative structures is presented in the regularly revised Organizational Chart of the University.

The University Senate is formed of 31 members of which 75 % are teaching and research staff and 25% are student representatives. The University Senate establishes specialized commissions which control the activity of the University executive management as follows:

- the Commission for national and international relations
- the Commission for scientific research
- the Commission for curriculum, human resources, academic titles
- the Commission for students' activity, relations with the alumni
- the Commission for codes, rules and legal affairs
- the Commission for University strategy and development
- the Commission for Quality Assurance and Evaluation
- the Commission for Academic Ethics
- the Commission for Ethics of the Scientific Research

The monitoring and control reports issued by the specialized commission are regularly presented and discussed in the University Senate.

Transparent regulations apply to all steps of the educational process. During the onsite visit, the experts note the high number of commissions. According to the University, the Romanian legislation imposes a tight structure on administrative processes. Nonetheless, the experts state that over-structuring appears to be a threat (e.g. many commissions and redundancies) and recommend identifying the benefits of the high number of commissions.

The experts point out that the management positions within the University are filled in a way that obeys the conditions stipulated in Chapter XI, Sections 1-2, Chapter XII, Sections 2-4 of the "Law of National Education" in Romania no. 1/2001. According to the legislation in force, the management positions were filled either by general elections or public contest, depending on the case.

The academic organization of Vasile Goldiș Western University of Arad is clearly defined on a hierarchical basis. Through an organizational chart and an overview of the board of directors, it was ascertained how the structure and the strategy of the University are coordinated and who has the final say.

The University presented the developments in internationalization and cooperation since the last Institutional Evaluation in the beginning of the onsite visit. The experts perceive the development of the University very positively. From the experts' point of view, the collaboration with other universities in Romania and abroad can be enhanced further. The documentation provided by the University gave sufficient insight into existing co-operations.

An evaluation and controlling system has been established. A particular department coordinates international cooperation based on the Erasmus programs and implements strategic objectives. Duties, responsibilities and authorities are clearly structured and documented. On the whole, the University has transparent organizational structures and well documented regulations.

The management activity of the University is carried out with the help of high-performance electronic administration and management systems in the various fields of activity.

Area D. Educational activities, including study programs

The HEI defines clear goals for each of its study programs, which correspond and relate to the HEI's profile and mission, thus corresponding to the desired qualification level and being thereto comparable on an educational level. Nevertheless, the study programs offered are recognized as unitary due to their particularities. The HEI develops quality management procedures for the planning of teaching and learning processes and the implementation of study programs. The results achieved are continuously monitored and documented. The HEI also provides additional educational programs to cover the continuous training of its personnel and the enhancement of student training in the form of workshops, conferences, internal training or further educational programs. The HEI provides adequate premises for implementing its study programs. The HEI has a library providing adequate learning resources for its study programs. Should the profiles of the study programs require it, the HEI holds additional premises available for practical activities (e.g. laboratories or computer rooms). Admission requirements and student evaluation methods are clear, manageable and publicized. The HEI has established mechanisms relating to student support and advice. The HEI promotes exchange programs and international mobility among its students and teaching personnel. The HEI promotes research and scientific activity. It has developed a strategy which sets corresponding goals. The study programs encompass research-related components, depending on the profile and final qualification. The HEI has sufficient material, spatial and financial resources to develop its current and planned research activities.

Evaluation

Goals of the various study programs are clearly defined and learning outcomes and performance indicators for the assessment of achieved learning outcomes are in place. The HEI develops quality management procedures for the planning of teaching and learning processes and the implementation of study programs. The results achieved are continuously monitored and documented. The students have expressed their satisfaction with the study programs and the general learning environment in the discussions with the experts.

The University has six faculties (Dental Medicine, Pharmacy, Medicine, Economics, Computer Science and Engineering, Law and Social Sciences and Physical Education and Sport) currently offering 40 Bachelor study programs. All programs are either already accredited or are in the process of accreditation. Furthermore, the University offers 17 Master programs and two doctoral schools (Medicine and Biology).

On the basis of additional documentation, such as a list of Bachelor and Master study programs, the study programs were assessed according to the national regulations as well as the European Standard Guidelines. The programs are set up in a comparable way with those in the European Higher Education Area (ECTS, Diploma supplement etc.). They also include research-related components, depending on the profile and final qualification of the study program. A research strategy is described. However, the experts recommend that the research conducted by the teaching staff is integrated more thoroughly into the study programs.

During the on-site visit, the staff situation as well as the use of continuous education programs for staff were discussed. Information in this respect was also provided in an additional document addressing activities of lifelong training and personal development organized for the staff of the University. The University states that it organizes post-graduate training and ongoing professional development programs according to the law.

The University has a library that provides learning resources for the study programs. Currently, students and academic staff have electronic access to the scientific literature of 5 databases: ScienceDirect FreedomCollection, Elsevier; SpringerLink Journals, Springer; Web of Knowledge, ClarivateAnalytics; Wiley Journals; Nature Journals and 2 e-book platforms: De Gruyter e-books (2855 e-books in all fields) and CAB e-books (240 e-books). As a possible improvement, the experts suggest the expansion of the electronic library. Also, more international literature should be offered.

Various support mechanisms for students are in place. Student satisfaction seems to be very high. Admission requirements and student evaluation methods are clear, the information is publicly available.

The Vasile Goldiș Western University of Arad applies a transparent policy of recruiting and admitting students, publicly announced at least 6 months before the application.

For admission to bachelor's, master's and psychopedagogical training programs, the university applies the provisions of the Methodology on the Organization and

Development of the Admission at the Bachelor, Master, Doctoral and Lifelong Training Studies (DPPD), document updated annually, approved by the Board of Directors and by the University Senate, published online 6 months before admission.

For the admission of foreign students, the Western University "Vasile Goldiș" in Arad applies specific internal provisions, approved by Board of Directors and the Senate, annually, namely the Methodology regarding admission to studies and education of foreign citizens from third countries of the European Union.

The own admission procedures assume that no discriminatory admission criteria are applied and all candidates have an equal chance of being admitted to the program they opt for.

Only high school graduates with a baccalaureate diploma or the equivalent diploma, regardless of the year of high school graduation, have the right to participate in the admission competition for undergraduate university studies.

Citizens of other member states of the European Union, of the states belonging to the European Economic Area and the Swiss Confederation, who are high school graduates with a baccalaureate diploma or equivalent obtained in the mentioned states, can participate in the admission, under the same conditions provided by law for Romanian citizens, recognized by higher education institutions, according to lists and methodologies approved by order of the Minister of Education.

The University presented the developments in internationalization and cooperation since the last Institutional Evaluation in the beginning of the on-site visit. The University further expanded its activities and the number of collaborations is steadily increasing. The documentation provided by the University gave sufficient insight into existing cooperations. The experts perceive the development of the University very positively. Unfortunately, the number of students studying abroad is still relatively low. The University and its students explain, that mainly financial issues, part-time jobs and family prevent a stay at a university abroad. From the experts' point of view, the University should think about alternative ways of financing a stay abroad. Shorter periods abroad could be more attractive to students, for example summer schools or internships. Furthermore, the experts recommend finding creative ways of internationalization, for example internationalization from home or online conferences, to include their students in the international scientific community.

For future development and better visibility of the study programs, the experts deem indispensable to update the English website with information about the study programs and the possibilities to join the University.

Additionally, the University invested in recruitment efforts abroad. Among other things, a recruiter works in Italy to make the University more visible for foreign students and the University participate in international student fairs, which the experts welcome.

During the last Institutional Evaluation in 2017, the experts and the University discussed the recognition of externally achieved credit points. The University recognizes credits obtained in other universities if they comply with the regulations on students' professional activity, the equivalence of credits is evaluated by a credit recognition committee inside each faculty. From the experts' point of view, the recognition of credits transferred from other universities (domestic and abroad) should be regulated according to the requirements of the Lisbon Recognition Convention, i.e. the responsibility to demonstrate that an application does not fulfil the relevant requirements lies with the body undertaking the assessment (Art. 3.3 (5)); Each Party shall recognize periods of study completed within the framework of a higher education program in another Party. This recognition shall comprise such periods of study towards the completion of a higher education program in the Party in which recognition is sought, unless substantial differences can be shown between the periods of study completed in another Party and the part of the higher education program which they would replace in the Party in which recognition is sought (Art. 5.1 (1)).

The study contract and the ECTS contract are concluded in two copies, one copy is given to the student, and the other is kept in the student's file, at the faculty secretariat. The study contract specifies the study program, the duration of the studies, the tuition fee, the conditions for promotion of the academic year and/or the study cycle, the rights and obligations of the students and the University. Based on these documents, the candidate is enrolled as a student.

The transfer of students to and from the Western University "Vasile Goldiș" in Arad was carried out in compliance with the legal provisions included in the Ministry of Education Order no. 651/2014 for the approval of the Methodology regarding the academic mobility of students and the Ministry of Education Order no. 5140/2019 for the approval of the Methodology regarding the academic mobility of students.

The transfer of students (definitive academic mobility) is carried out in compliance with the legal provisions regarding the maximum tuition capacity approved by Government Decision.

The results obtained by students during their education are registered in the exam catalogs and recorded both in the matriculation registers on the basis of which the supplement to the diploma is issued upon graduation, after passing the final exam, as well as in the IT program for managing the education of UMS - University students Management System. For graduates who did not take and pass the final exams, the results are certified by the school report.

Within the "Vasile Goldiș" Western University in Arad, there is the office for issuing study documents that completes, verifies and issues the study documents of the graduates (diplomas, supplements to diplomas, certificates, attestations).

In the Regulation regarding the professional activity of students and master's students, it is mentioned the right of students to benefit from free of charge for the issuance of study documents and those attesting to student status (including school status/transcript, bachelor's, engineer's and master's degree, diploma supplement, notebooks and student IDs). Each graduate is issued the Diploma Supplement, which respects the legal format, containing information in Romanian and English.

An elaborated research strategy as well as a comprehensive quality management system is described. The quality management includes processes for the evaluation and development of study plans, learning processes, learning outcomes and the creation as well as closure of new study programs. All bachelor, master and doctoral programs has "Methodology of research" as compulsory discipline.

Area E. Infrastructure and functional resources

The HEI provides evidence that it has sufficient spatial, material and functional resources available to ensure the proper functioning of all teaching, learning, research and administrative activities. They are adequate in relation to the number of students enrolled and the number of teaching and administrative personnel. The HEI develops plans for constantly enhancing its resources. The HEI has a mechanism for recruiting personnel. There are corresponding regulations in force for recruiting teaching and administrative personnel, which are clear and transparent and promote equality and recognition based on qualification and experience. The duties and responsibilities of the personnel correspond to their qualifications and experience. The personnel is aware of their tasks and contribute to enhancing the HEI's strategy and activities. The number of personnel employed is adequate for developing all the HEI's current and planned activities. The HEI secures sufficient revenue and its budget is clearly and transparently planned and covers all incurred costs.

Evaluation

The university is a private, non-profit institution of higher education. Tuition fees cover a substantial part of the budget.

During the visit, the existence of a separate Financial-Accounting Department was found within the University. The University has organized its own accounting, prepares an accounting balance sheet, has a budget execution account and its own management report from which it follows that the expenses incurred are in accordance with the legislation in force, the revenues collected and their destination, as well as the non-profit nature of university. The institution has rigorously implemented and applies sustainable short-term, medium-term and long-term financial policies. The Financial Accounting Department is headed by an economic director with higher education in the economic field, as well as qualified staff with higher education. The university has its own income and expenditure budget for higher education activity, fiscal code and its own bank accounts.

Financial resources are represented by the incomes of the University (from taxes, research contracts, rental contracts and sponsorships). The university has a well-

structured annual budget, as well as short- and medium-term financial policies, with reference to financial sustainability.

Annually, at the University level, a budget approved by the Board of Directors is drawn up. At the University level, tuition fees are calculated in accordance with the average tuition costs per academic year for similar bachelor's or master's fields and are made known to students by being posted on the University's website.

As part of the on-site visit, the buildings and premises of the University campus were inspected. During the tour around the library, seminar and lecture halls and employees' offices, the expert group could visualize available material and space resources of the University. Based on the Self-Evaluation Report, provided by the University, and the tour, the experts established that the University currently has sufficient material and spatial resources to develop its present and future activities. The experts compliment the investment in the modern equipment in the new building, which is mainly used for dentistry. The University's infrastructure and equipment is qualitatively heterogeneous. The University has a library providing learning resources for the offered study programs. Both human and financial resources are adequate for reaching the intended objectives of the University.

Furthermore, the student-to-teacher ratio is excellent. The students' satisfaction regarding the services offered was visible. Students report a family atmosphere and great support in different matters at the University.

Due to the demographic changes in Romania, the number of students will probably decrease further in the next years. To compensate the lower number of students and therefore the financial losses, new means of funding should be sought. Since the University mostly depends financially on tuition fees, the experts recommend searching for additional sources of financial income. Examples could be joint research projects, a more active involvement on a communal level, such as the provision of paid services, or the implementation of entrepreneurial activities of the staff.

The University has a structured mechanism for recruiting personnel. There are clear and rigorous rules on the selection of staff and there are good procedures in place when vacancies occur. There are corresponding regulations in force for recruiting teaching and administrative personnel, which are clear and transparent and promote equality as well as recognition based on qualification and experience. The duties and responsibilities of the personnel correspond to their qualifications and experience.

The didactic competitions are organized every semester, in compliance with the legal provisions regarding the publication of positions, the registration of candidates, the conduct of exams and the validation of results in the faculty councils, in the Board of Directors and the Senate, and the posting of all information on the university website.

The associated teaching staff is hired based on the proposals of the departments, validated by the deans, after an appropriate selection. High-class specialists in professional fields are invited as associate teaching staff based on professional achievements and Senate approval.

Regarding the aspect of human resources present a statistical number of tenured and associate academic year 2021-2022 the teaching staff.

VGWU Teaching Staff 2021-2022

Academic year	Teaching staff (Tenured)				Total	Teachers (associated)				Total	Grand total
	Professor	Assoc Prof	Lecturer	Assistant		Professor	Assoc Prof	Lecturer	Assistant		
2021-2022	36	60	135	77	308	2	3	33	43	81	389

Regarding the quality of teaching and research, the University has a well defined strategy on harmonizing the academic quality educational objectives. All programs of undergraduate studies evaluated a number of positions there, that teachers in relation to student numbers corresponding to specific standards.

"Vasile Goldiș" Western University of Arad provides coverage in at least one cycle of licensed activities referred to subjects in the curriculum with competent teaching staff in accordance with the provisions of Law no. Education Law 1/2011, with subsequent amendments and to national and international standards.

The teaching staff cover one academic year in a teaching load and teaching activities going beyond this are standardized under hourly payment in accordance with Law no. Education Law 1/2011, as amended and supplemented, and national and international standards in the field. In this regard, the University Senate issued a decision approving the Regulation for drawing states functions of teaching and research as amended, and which have been applied across all faculties, reorganized conf. GD. 575 2015 amending and supplementing Government Decision no. 493/2013 on the

approval of the list of domains and specializations / study programs, the structure of higher education institutions, areas and university programs accredited or authorized to function temporarily, the geographic locations of deployment, the number of transferable study credits for each academic program, in education and language teaching, and the maximum number of students that can be enrolled.

Number of teaching positions filled with permanent teachers and teachers associated

Academic year	Number of tenured teaching positions	Number of associated positions	Total Positions
2019-2020	303	178	481
2020-2021	299	153	452
2021-2022	308	187	495

2.3 Conclusion

In short, as a first step, this Expert Report gives a preliminary evaluation of the self-evaluation report submitted by the University and the talks between the University representatives and the experts with regard to pre-agreed assessment areas. The first meeting within the expert group was aimed at pointing out strengths and weaknesses,

as well as reaching a common level of discussion for further enhancement of the quality of teaching, learning and research within the University. The meeting was also organized with the objective of expediting the external evaluation process and clarifying open questions in order to be able to make a preliminary statement regarding strengths and weaknesses of the Higher Education Institution and to formulate recommendations for the next meeting.

As a second step, this Expert Report comes to a conclusion of the External Institutional Evaluation after a second on-site visit. It shows the collection of answers to the open questions and completion of all the information necessary in order to evaluate the University's internal mechanisms and quality management processes, coming to a final result in this Expert Report. As agreed beforehand, the proceedings of the External Institutional Evaluation conform to the "Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area" (ESG) and "The Guide of the Activities of Quality Evaluation for University Study Programs and Higher Education Institutions: Part I Evaluation Guide for Externally Accredited Study Programs" and "External Assessment Methodology, Standards, Reference Standards, and List of Indicators performance of the Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education" and the procedure is based on the "General Information on Institutional Audit and Quality Assurance Procedures" (Resolution of the Board of AHPGS of February 14th, 2013). Accordingly, the Expert Report sums up the key aspects and preliminary outcomes of the visit and the reviewed documents, and the summary concludes the strengths and weaknesses of the Institution. The central focus of the External Institutional Evaluation procedure is the assessment of the areas: A. Profile, objectives and strategy of the institution / Area B. Quality assurance and quality management system / Area C. Institutional management and administration / Area D. Educational activities, including study programs / Area E. Infrastructure and functional resources. The experts were able to assure themselves that the University fulfills the criteria as stipulated in the assessment areas A to E, thus verifying the quality standards of the Higher Education Institution. The criteria address general areas for evaluation when implementing external quality assurance procedures at Higher Education Institutions. However, the assessment of the experts examines,

aside from infrastructure and organizational/management structure, further aspects of the institution, such as planned and current study programs.

To sum up the External Institutional Evaluation, the experts render a positive judgment regarding the institutional component of the University. The experts appreciate the development of the University since the last Institutional Evaluation in 2017. The University implemented many of the recommendation of the last Institutional Evaluation. There is coherence between vision, mission strategy and action plans of the University.

The experts recommend further sharpening of the University’s profile in order to highlight the University’s unique characteristics, like the connection to the local community. VGWU clearly contributes to the development of the Romanian society through education and scientific research, with the purpose of generating and transferring knowledge to the society.

Furthermore, the experts can confirm the positive overall impression they had during the on-site visit both from the University’s quality assurance system as well as from the people involved in the quality assurance process. Again, students and graduates have expressed their full satisfaction with the study programs and learning environment.

Both the institutional management and administration are transparently depicted in the University Charter. The experts also welcome the participation of students in the process.

Furthermore, as a competitive forward-looking institution, it is imperative for the University to streamline its profile, to determine its unique selling points and to cluster education and research around these topics and domains.

The University presented the developments in internationalization and cooperation since the last Institutional Evaluation in the beginning of the on-site visit. The University further expanded its activities and the number of collaborations is steadily increasing. The documentation provided by the University gave sufficient insight into existing cooperations. The experts perceive the development of the University very positively. Due to financial difficulties of the students, the number of students going abroad is relatively low. Shorter periods abroad could be more attractive to students, for example summer

schools or internships. Finding creative ways of internationalization, for example internationalization from home or online conferences, to include their students in the international scientific community, is recommended. The University also invested in recruitment efforts in Italy.

The following recommendations are thus strongly proposed for the University's consideration in order to strengthen and make use of its existing assets, as well as to further enhance the quality of teaching, learning and research and to emphasize the responsibility of the University for quality assurance of its study programs following the European understanding of institutional autonomy in higher education. 24 months after the decision was issued by the Accreditation Commission, AHPGS will ask the University for a written update describing how the proposed recommendations were taken up by the University.

Area A

- The University should prioritize the research activities in its strategy.
- The internationalization strategy of the university should be further strengthened and collaboration with universities should be fostered and enhanced.
- The experts recommend to develop a strategic plan to manage the declining student numbers and the financial loss that might result.

Area B

- The experts recommended to monitor the number of students and define a critical mass of students for each program.
- The University should discuss the implementation of interdisciplinary Master study programs. The University could benefit from its knowledge in the medical field to implement new study programs like healthcare management or related fields of study.

Area C

- During the onsite visit, the experts note the high number of commissions. According to the University, the Romanian legislation imposes a tight structure on administrative processes. Nonetheless, the experts state that over-structuring appears to be a threat (e.g. many commissions and redundancies) and recommend identifying the benefits of the high number of commissions.

Area D

- A research strategy is described by the University. However, the experts recommend that the research conducted by the teaching staff is integrated more thoroughly into the study programs.
- As a possible improvement to the library, the expansion of the electronic library is suggested. Also, more international literature should be offered.
- the University should think about alternative ways of financing a stay abroad. Shorter periods abroad could be more attractive to students, for example summer schools or internships. Furthermore, creative ways of internationalization, for example internationalization from home or online conferences, to include their students in the international scientific community could be an option.
- For future development and better visibility of the study programs, the English website with information about the study programs and the possibilities to join the University should be updated.
- the recognition of credits transferred from other universities (domestic and abroad) should be regulated according to the requirements of the Lisbon Recognition Convention

Area E

- Since the University mostly depends financially on tuition fees, the experts recommend to search for additional sources of financial income. Examples could be joint research projects, a more active involvement on a communal level, such as the provision of paid services, or the implementation of entrepreneurial activities of the staff.

3 Annex 1 Schedule on-site visit:

November 14 th , 2022	Agenda	Participants
08:00	Internal discussion of the expert group	Expert group and representatives of the AHPGS
November 16 th , 2022	Agenda	Participants
10:30	Arrival at Timișoara Traian Vuia International Airport / Transfer to the hotel	
12:00-14:00	Internal discussion of the expert group / lunch Topics: Getting to know the expert group, explanation of the procedure, preparation of discussions	Expert group and representatives of the AHPGS
14:30	Transfer to the University / Welcome Speech	Expert group and representatives of the AHPGS
15:00-16:30	Interview with the management of the University Topics: Governance of the University, profile and strategy of the University staff, resources of the departments and faculties and the study programs, support offers, gender equality, concerns of disabled students	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Coralia Adina Cotoraci Ph.D. – Rector 2. Prof. Anca Hermenean Ph.D. – Vice-Rector for Scientific Research and Doctoral Studies 3. Prof. Aurel Darau Ph.D. – Vice-Rector for Institutional Strategy and Quality Management 4. Assoc.prof. Cristian Bente Ph.D. – Vice-Rector for the Academic Strategy and the Study Programmes 5. Assoc.prof. Anghelina Andrei Ph.D. – Vice-Rector for the Human Resources Strategy, Administration and the Relation with the Social-Economic Environment 6. Assoc.prof. Casiana Boru Ph.D. – Dean of the Faculty of Medicine 7. Prof. Olah Neli Ph.D. – Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy 8. Lecturer. Ioana Lile Ph.D. – Dean of the Faculty of Dentistry 9. Assoc.prof.. Vasile Lazar Ph.D. – Dean of the Faculty of Economic Sciences, Informatics and Engineering 10. Assoc. prof. Speranta Milancovici Ph.D. – Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Physical Education and Sports 11. Assoc. prof. Daniel Berlingher Ph.D. – Dean of the Faculty of Law 12. Marta Ghilea – Jurist 13. Flavius Sabau – Chief Secretary of the University

16:30-16:45	Break / Internal discussion	Expert group and representatives of the AHPGS
16:45-18:15	Interview with representatives of the bachelor study programs (Dean, Head of respective department) Topics: Strategy of the Faculty, leadership and organizational culture, conditions and resources for teaching, conditions and resources for research, working conditions at the Faculty; experience with gender equality and disabled students	1. Assoc.prof. Anghelina Andrei Ph.D. – Vice-Rector for the Human Resources Strategy, Administration and the Relation with the Social-Economic Environment 2. Assoc.prof. Vasile Lazar Ph.D. – Dean of the Faculty of Economic Sciences, Informatics and Engineering 3. Assoc.prof. Luminita Paiusan Ph.D. – Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Economic Sciences, Informatics and Engineering 4. Assoc.prof. Mihai Brad Ph.D. – Head of Department Faculty of Economic Sciences, Informatics and Engineering
19:00	Dinner / Internal discussion	
September 17th, 2022	Agenda	Participants
09:00	Transfer to the University / Welcome	Expert group and representatives of the AHPGS
09:30-11:30	Interview with teaching staff Topics: Strategy of the University, working conditions at the University, resources for teaching and research activities, facilities, staff development, leadership and organizational culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 09:30-10:00 Business Administration; Business Administration (in English) • 10:00-10:30 Accounting and Bookkeeping Information Systems • 10:30-11:00 Economy of Trade, Tourism and Services • 11:00-11:30 Marketing 	Business Administration; Business Administration (in English) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Dumiter Florin Ph.D. 2. Assoc.prof. David Delia Ph.D. 3. Lect. Ștefania Nicoară Ph.D. Accounting and Bookkeeping Information Systems (at Satu-Mare) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Habil. Neagu Olimpia Ph.D. 2. Assoc.prof. Vasile Lazar Ph.D. 3. Assoc.prof. Mircea Teodoru Ph.D. 4. Lect. Costea Ciprian Ph.D. 5. Lect. Virag Nicolae Ph.D. Economy of Trade, Tourism and Services (at Sebis) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Schebesch Klaus Ph.D. 2. Prof. Șoim Horațiu Ph.D. 3. Assoc.prof. Eugen Remes Ph.D. Marketing (at Zalau) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Grec Aurica Ph.D. 2. Assoc.prof. Anghelina Andrei Ph.D. 3. Assoc.prof. Ursu Dorel Ph.D. 4. Lect. Feniser Florin Ph.D.
11:30-11:45	Break / Internal discussion	Expert group and representatives of the AHPGS
11:45-12:45	Interview with students	Novac Luca Șerpar Marian-Cosmin

	<p>Topics: Experience of the students at the University and in the study programs, academic demands, professional qualifications, and personal development; availability of resources; support (tutorials, mentoring programs, advisory service, etc.); experience with gender equality and disabled</p>	<p>Miron Constantin Doru Bîrnețiu Andreea Cuibuș (Berinde) Amalia Pop Yarin Nagy Bettina Vonhaz Erik Costelaș Gabriel Mirăuți Georgiana Holhoș (Ernszt) Iulia Monica Dulgheru Silviu Daniel Ratoi Gabriel Habib Muhammad Wahib Elghadiry Roumaissa Piros Andreea Turculeanu Mirela Vasile Vlad Antoniu Reitano Martina Suceveanu Bogdan Bellinger Jaquiline Ahmen Arsalan Azar Robert Pîlan Liliana Sabou Martina Anca Stoica Neag Diana Huțiu Mirela Jebedia Larissa Claudia N.B. The list of students may suffer minor modifications.</p>
<p>12:45- 13:45</p>	<p>Lunch / Internal discussion</p>	
<p>14:00</p>	<p>Debriefing with the University</p>	

4 Annex 2 Complete list of experts involved in the different steps of the evaluation process

Mr. Silvio Christoffel

University of Konstanz, Germany

Student of Politics and Public Administration

Prof. Dr. Günter Friesenhahn

Koblenz University of Applied Sciences, Germany

Senior Professor at the Faculty of Social Sciences

Visiting Professor at Dipartimento di Filosofia e Beni Culturali der Università

Ca'Foscari, Venice

Prof. Dr. Marion Halfmann

Niederrhein University of Applied Sciences, Moenchengladbach, Germany

Professor of Business Administration Marketing and Sales

Internationalisation Officer

Formerly: Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, Kleve, Germany

Vice President for Teaching, Learning and Further Education

Prof. Dr. Bjoern Maier

Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University Mannheim, Germany

Dean of Students, Professor for Business Administration, Director of Studies

Health Care Management and Controlling

Prof. Dr. Carolin Sutter

SRH University of Applied Sciences Heidelberg, Germany

Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, Study Program Director
Business Law (LL.B.) of Business Administration Marketing and Sales

Prof. Dr. Burkhard von Velsen-Zerweck

Magdeburg-Stendal University of Applied Sciences, Germany

Professor of Service Economics and Management, Department of Business Administration

Member of several national and international research communities, such as the "Global Services Network (GSN)", the "Service Operations Management Area (SOMA)" and the Coordination Office for Services (KDL) of the German Institute for Standardization (DIN) in Berlin.

Prof. Dr. Jana Wolf

Aalen University, Germany

Professor at Aalen University, Department of Healthcare Management

Healthcare Economics fellow position with focus on pharmaceuticals (valuation, cost effectiveness studies)