MINISTERSTVO ŠKOLSTVÍ, MLÁDEŽE A TĚLOVÝCHOVY

MODULE 3 SOCIAL RELEVANCE

EVALUATED UNIT: Faculty of Mechanical Engineering TUL

FORD: 2000

PERIOD: 2014–2018

MODULE 3 – OVERALL ASSESSMENT	
After evaluation of the individual criteria of the M3 module, please summarize your assessment in the context of the whole module (social benefits, applied research projects, results of applied research, cooperation with the non-academic environment and technology transfer, recognition by the research community and the popularization of R&D&I) and describe and justify the strengths and weaknesses of the evaluated unit.	
Overall score [0–5 points]:	**207**
Overall grade [Excellent– Unsatisfactory]:	**4 – Very good**

General qualitative assessment (summary):

The FME conducts high-quality applied research aiming to respond to economic, health and safety, and environmental challenges in today's society. The faculty offers and uses excellent opportunities for applied research in combination with engineering education. It fulfils its tasks in the education of engineers for the national market.

The faculty has carried out a large number of research projects (state financing) and development projects (industrial financing). For the future, it seems desirable to direct research efforts towards interdisciplinary projects (textile, nanomaterials), whereby the role as technology carrier in the region must be maintained. The vast majority of this research is driven by industry. To guarantee a degree of independence from industrial demands, the faculty is encouraged to strengthen its own research portfolio by focusing on fundamental areas. A major challenge is to structure the relationship between applied research and basic research. This requires improving relations with local industry and at the same time developing partnerships with other research institutions in the Czech Republic and abroad.

Mechanisms for knowledge transfer and intellectual property management have proven effective, as shown by the significant number of research results (patents, licenses, prototypes, pilot plants, proven technologies and utility models) reported over the evaluation period. Setting up spin-off companies could be an area worth exploring to further capitalize on research outcomes.
International projection should be increasingly encouraged by involving FEM's staff, especially the younger generation, in new partnerships with foreign research groups, higher-impact editorial activities and professional memberships.