

## ACCREDITATION 2014

The Faculty of Materials Science and Technology (MTF) is accredited as a **university type of institution**. Having undergone a complex accreditation process in 2009, the Faculty obtained the right to grant the academic titles of “Bachelor” (Bc.), “Engineer” (Ing., corresponding to Master’s degree) and “Philosophiae Doctor” (Ph.D.). In 2014, the Faculty provided 9 Bachelor study programmes, 11 Master study programmes, and 8 Doctoral study programmes. The Bachelor and Master study programmes were provided in full time form, the Doctoral programmes were offered in both full-time and part-time study forms.

### Accredited study programmes at the Faculty

<b>Accredited study programmes – Bc.</b>
Applied Informatics and Automation in Industry
Occupational Health and Safety
Production Quality
Materials Engineering
Personnel Policy in Industrial Plant
Computer-Aided Production Technologies
Industrial Management
Production Technologies
Production Devices and Systems
<b>Accredited study programmes – Ing.</b>
Process Automation and ICT Implementation in Industry
Production Quality Engineering
Integrated Safety
Materials Engineering
Machining and Assembly
Computer-Aided Design and Production
Industrial Management
Industrial and Art Foundry
Processing and Application of Non-metals
Production Devices and Systems
Welding
<b>Accredited study programmes – PhD.</b>
Process Automation and ICT Implementation
Integrated Safety
Production Quality Engineering
Materials Engineering
Industrial Management
Processing and Application of Non-metals
Machining Technologies and Materials
Production Devices and Systems

### Study system and organisation

The credit system introduced at the Slovak University of Technology (STU) has been implemented in all three degrees of the university education at STU MTF, in compliance with the law and accreditation within the defined standard length of study for both full-time and part-time study forms.

**Degree 1:** Bachelor’s study, accomplished by granting the academic title of “Bachelor” - Bc. Having successfully passed the State exam and gaining the academic title of “Bachelor” (Bc.), the graduates can either continue the study at degree 2 level, or leave the Faculty.

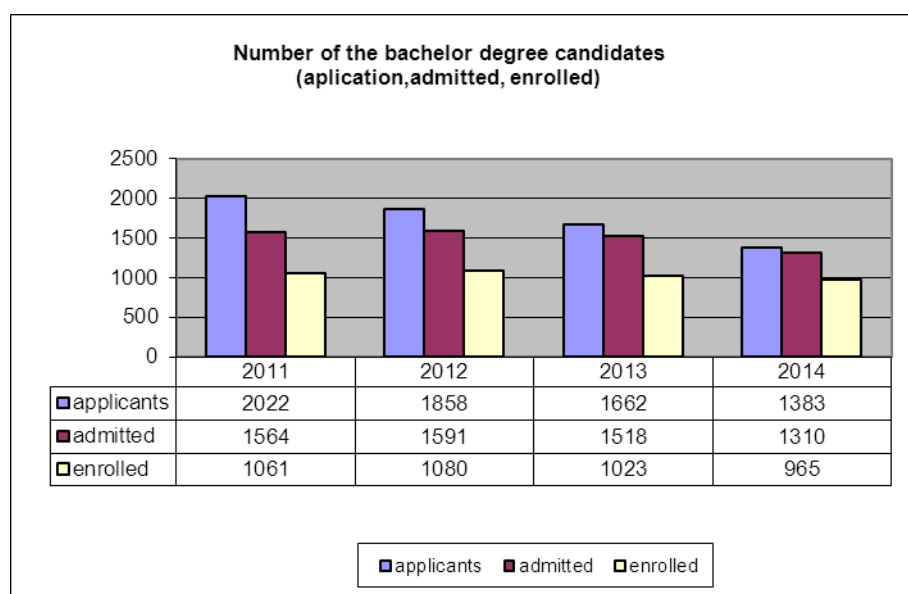
**Degree 2:** Master’s study, accomplished by gaining the academic title of engineer – “Ing.” (corresponding to MSc.)

**Degree 3:** Doctoral study in both full-time and part-time forms. The defined standard length of study in full-time form is 3 years, in part-time form 5 years. The study is accomplished by gaining the academic title of “Philosophiae Doctor “– PhD.

The above-mentioned programmes at Degree levels 1 and 2 can be studied in a full-time form; the Doctoral study (Degree level 3) programmes are provided in both full-time and part-time forms.

### Applications, admittance and enrolments for study at the Faculty

The level of interest in study at the Faculty within individual degrees is quite stable. A decrease in the number of the students admitted and enrolled was partially due to the changes introduced by the Ministry of Education of SR in financing universities, which consequently modified the policy of the Faculty management on the one hand, and also the decreasing demographic curve and the increasing number of new universities and colleges in the Slovak Republic, on the other hand.

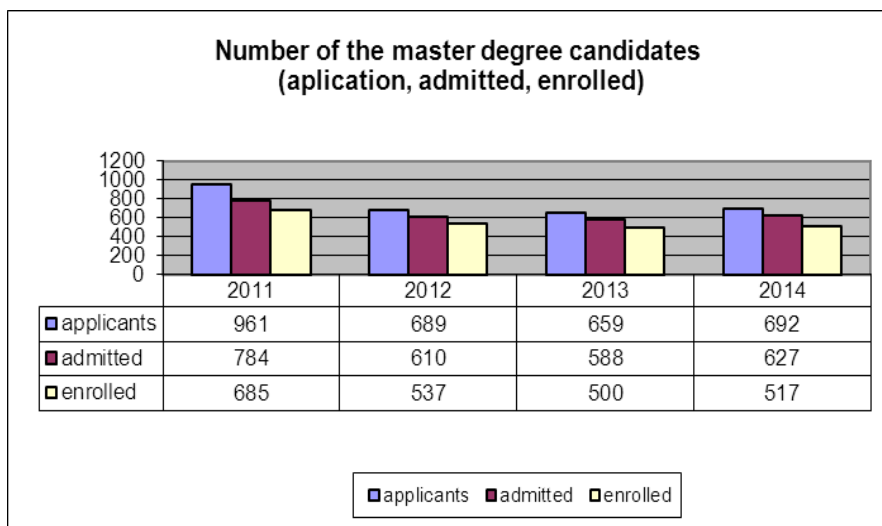


**Graph No. 1** Number of Bachelor’s degree candidates (applicants, admitted, enrolled) in the last four years

### Admission procedure varies according to the degree

The admission procedure for the Bachelor’s degree is based on the applicant’s secondary school results, i.e. there is no entrance examination. An interest in the area of study certified by participation in specialised competitions is an advantage for the applicants.

The admission procedure for the Master’s degree considers the results of the entrance examinations achieved in three profile subjects within the programme studied as well as the overall study achievements of the Bachelor’s graduate.



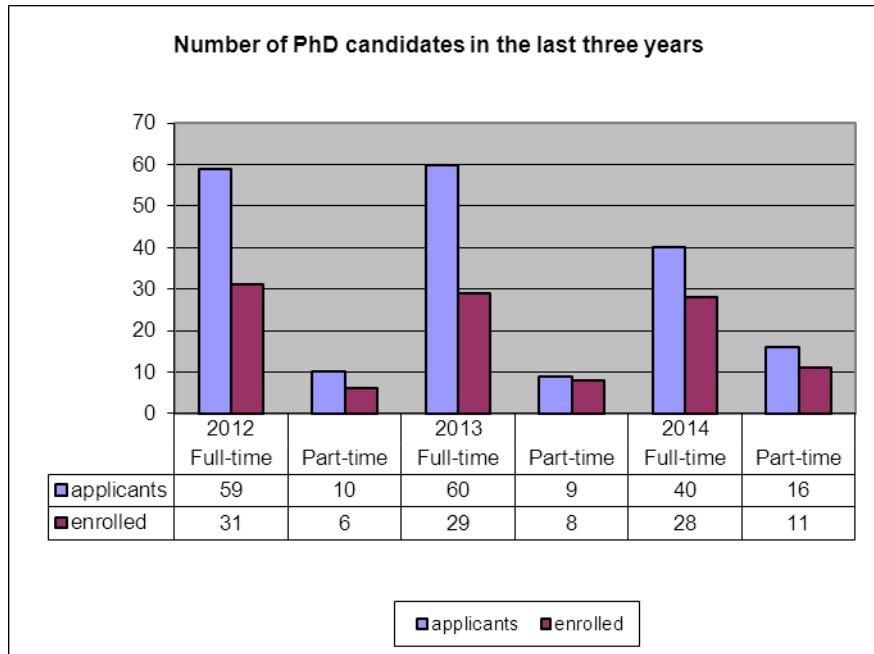
**Graph No. 2** Number of Master’s degree candidates (applicants, admitted, enrolled) in the last four years

The Faculty management perceive with satisfaction that, besides the STU MTF Bc. graduates interested in Master’s study, there is also a high number of candidates from other universities (Table.1), which is a proof of the high quality of the Faculty Master’s study programmes.

<i>Applicants</i>	MTF graduates	591
	From other universities	101
	<b>Total</b>	<b>692</b>
<i>Enrolled</i>	MTF graduates	448
	From other universities	69
	<b>Total</b>	<b>517</b>

The admission procedure for the doctoral degree comprises of the entrance examination consisting of an interview regarding the chosen topic of the doctoral thesis and English for Specific Purposes test. The Faculty tends to increase the number of internal PhD students.

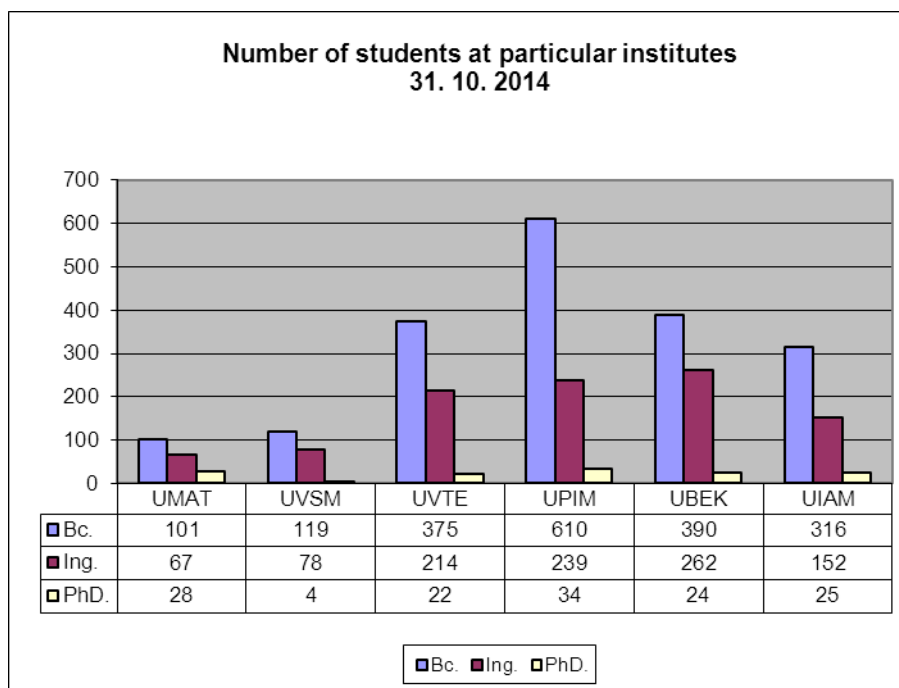
The number of full-time PhD students (**Graph No. 3**) depends on the financial policy of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic; the number of scholarships allotted to a university is based upon the criterion of its achievements in the field of research (domestic grants, foreign grants, internal PhD candidates having passed the dissertation exam, number of PhD graduates and the amount and quality of publications).



**Graph No. 3** Number of PhD candidates (applicants, enrolled) in the last three years

Study and teaching is guaranteed by the Faculty Institutes. Each Institute provides all three degrees of education.

The number of students at each Institute is illustrated in Graph 4.



**Graph No.4** Number of students by degree level at particular institutes

**Abbreviations used:**

*UIAM- Institute of Applied Informatics, Automation and Mathematics*

*UBEI- Institute of Safety, Environment and Quality*

*UMAT- Institute of Materials Science*

*UPIM- Institute of Industrial Engineering and Management*

*UVTE – Institute of Production Technologies*

*UVSM- Institute of Production systems and Applied Mechanics*

**Study conditions**

Regarding the premises and administration, the study conditions at the Faculty can be considered favourable.

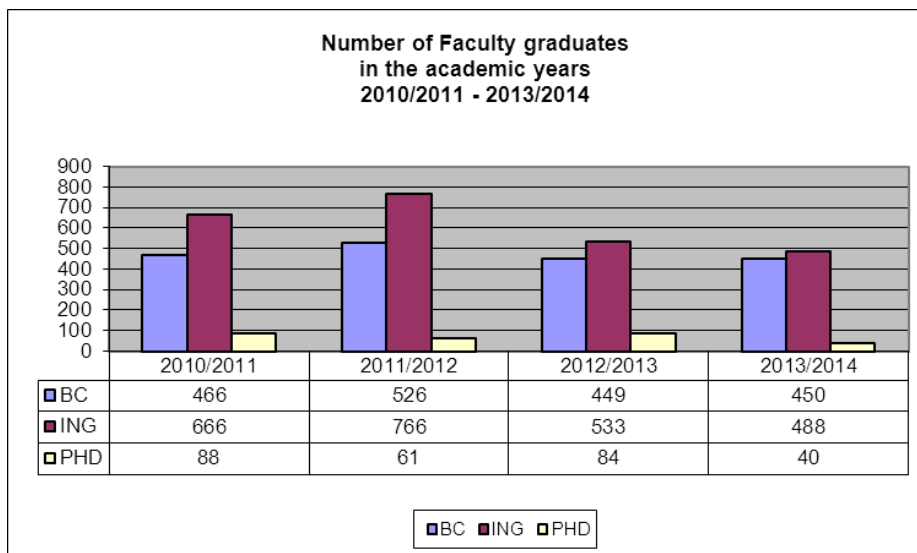
Access to textbooks has been improved by implementing the model of electronic textbooks available to all the Faculty students free of charge. To meet the student's requirements, Saturday office hours in the Registrar's Office and the Academic Library were introduced. As for social policy, significant is the study at the detached workplaces in Komárno and Dubnica nad Váhom (the first year of bachelor studies).

Besides study, the students can be involved in the institutional research activity either by participating in research projects and the Student Research Conference, or working as research student-helpers. The Student Research Conference provides the bachelor's and master's students with a chance to get acquainted with research methods, to analyse a research task and articulate the attained research results in both oral and written forms, and to defend their opinion in a professional forum. PhD students can present partial results of their research projects at the International Doctoral Seminar, an annual event organised by the Faculty and attended also by PhD students of foreign universities and research Institutes from home and abroad.

Besides the students of Slovak citizenship, there are also foreign students studying at STU MTF. Unfortunately, the Faculty is failing to attract a higher number of foreign students; their percentage is quite low so far.

**QUALITY OF EDUCATION AND EMPLOYABILITY OF GRADUATES**

Education efficiency and quality can be assessed by various criteria and parameters, such as the placement rate of graduates and the unemployment rate regularly announced by the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, SR. The fact that STU ranks among the universities with the lowest unemployment rate is justified by the educational quality and interest in social practice of the Faculty graduates.



**Graph No.5** Number of Faculty graduates in the last four years

The aim of the educational process is to train graduates for their future profession. Its efficiency is measured by various methods, the most important of which is the method of feedback mapping the student's opinions regarding the study contents, activities of the educational process implementation, study environment and teaching strategies. Besides these tools of educational quality improvement, the Faculty carries out a survey regarding student satisfaction with the aim to identify weaknesses in the education process, the teaching strategies, as well as the administration and organisation.

In accordance with the law on Universities No. 131/2002 Coll., the STU MTF students have a chance to participate in a survey via a questionnaire available on the Faculty website. The questionnaire is comprised of the following areas: process and organisation of the study, the quality and professional behaviour of teachers, the quality of the teaching process, accommodation and other areas.

The electronic questionnaire evaluating the level of education from the perspective of students, during the academic year 2012/13 was responded to by 463 students of all study degrees. The Faculty management deals seriously with the student suggestions from the questionnaire and informs the students and teachers on possible solutions or improvements.

## **SOCIAL MATTERS**

Accommodation and board for students are provided in the Student Hostel of M. Uher and the adjacent cafeteria and snack bars. Students appreciate the relatively high standard of comfort including free internet connection, as well as the availability of sports facilities such as a fitness centre, gym, indoor swimming pool and tennis courts, directly on the campus.

Besides the above-mentioned facilities, students can take advantage of social scholarships and other bonuses such as the ones for study achievements and motivation, study loans and consultancy in the Career Centre. All of this is considered when designing time-tables, the length of a training unit, the arrangement of subjects, administration of the student agenda in AIS, PC connection, medical care and the possibility of arranging one's matters in the Registrar's and Academic Library on Saturdays. A psychologist was also employed to support spiritual and mental well-being of students by helping the students to handle critical situations and to adapt to the new academic environment.

As amended by law, the social system includes both enforceable and non-enforceable scholarships provided within the framework defined by the Act on Universities or the internal University and Faculty legislations.