

Gdansk University of Technology
Narutowicza 11/12
80-233 Gdańsk
Poland

Geneva, 30 October 2019

Subject: Progress report by Gdansk University of Technology

Dear Professor Jacek Kropiwnicki,

Thank you very much for the progress report of the Gdansk University of Technology sent to IEP in September 2019.

On behalf of IEP and the evaluation team that visited your university, I express my deepest sympathy with the university on the sudden death of Professor Namiesnik in April 2019. Professor Namiesnik was Rector at the time of the IEP Evaluation, and the team remember him as a dynamic, forward-looking leader determined to position GUT as a leading university of technology in Poland and Europe.

We note that there is significant work underway at GUT following the introduction of the new law on higher education and science, and encourages the university to use the opportunities created by this new legislation to continue GUT's focus on enhancing the quality of teaching and learning, research, service to society and internationalisation across the university, through the ongoing modernisation of GUT's governance and management tools and processes.

We are encouraged to note that GUT found the IEP report useful and that a number of the IEP team's comments and recommendations have already led to specific actions or been incorporated into the new GUT development strategy. As part of this, we are particularly pleased to learn of the significant developments underway at GUT in the fields of undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral education. Coupled with the recent large reduction in student numbers, the team encourages GUT to use these current positive initiatives to ensure a renewed focus on the quality of the student experience across the entire university, from both an academic and an administrative perspective.

We likewise note the ongoing steps to strengthen GUT's research profile. We encourage the university to take a very strategic approach to these, with consolidated internal scientific and support structures to ensure ongoing and sustainable growth in research activity and funding across the university's priority areas.

We suggest that continued monitoring and evaluation will be particularly important, during the implementation of the university's development plan, to ensure effective implementation. We think it will be necessary to maintain an appropriate balance between centralised and decentralised/devolved responsibilities. As noted in the GUT progress report, the effective use of modern university management tools will be crucial in this regard.

Finally given the comprehensive nature of the Progress Report provided by GUT to IEP one year after the IEP evaluation, we would encourage the university to use this Progress Report for internal purposes also, and to ensure it is widely discussed in various university forums so that it becomes a natural part of GUT's internal quality assurance system

On behalf of IEP and the evaluation team that visited your university, I wish you every success in the continuation of your work.

Yours sincerely,



Tatjana Volkova
Chair, IEP steering committee