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AGENCIA ROMANA
DE ASIGURARE A
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POLITICS AND STRATEGIES FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE AT „OVIDIUS” UNIVERSITY OF CONSTANTA

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POLITICS AND STRATEGIES FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE AT „OVIDIUS“ UNIVERSITY OF CONSTANTA

Summary

- **The development of a quality system at „Ovidius“ University between 2000-2005**
- **Operational structures as the result of the implementation of national legislation**
- **The politics for quality assurance within „Ovidius“ University**
- **The strategy of “Ovidius” University in the field of quality assurance**
- **Mission statement on quality management**



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2000-2005: *The quality assurance system at „Ovidius” University of Constanta*

**During the year 2000, a system for quality assurance was created.
All the faculties in “Ovidius” University Constanta were co-opted within this system.**

**Together with four other university centers in Romania, the institution
benefitted from attention from the Dutch Government through the MATRA program.**

2000-2005: The quality assurance system at „Ovidius” University of Constanta

The subsequent legislative modifications led to the discontinuation of the plan and its reduction to the minimal objectives that did not necessitate specific legislative provisions:

- *the development and consolidation of a pro quality culture;*
- *the implementation of experimental procedures such as internal and external evaluation (international: peer-review) of the specialties Biology and History, the evaluation of the teaching staff from the Faculty of Physics-Chemistry and the Faculty of Letters.*
- *the intensification of the activity within the Black Sea University Network (BSUN) and the European University Association (EUA) in order not to lose contact with the international achievements.*

2000-2005: The quality assurance system at „Ovidius” University of Constanta

*Between 2004-2005, the participation to the project **Quality Culture II** financed by EUA and coordinated by the Free University in Berlin led to the evaluation of the system for quality assurance of curricula in the **Faculty of History and Political Sciences**, the **Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences** and the **Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics**.
Priorities were established in this field.*

*In this regard, the **Faculty of History and Political Sciences**, the **Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences** and the **Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics** concluded a cycle for self-evaluation and peer-review for one specialty, while, also, the **Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics** finalized a first draft of the Quality Manual.*

Operational structures

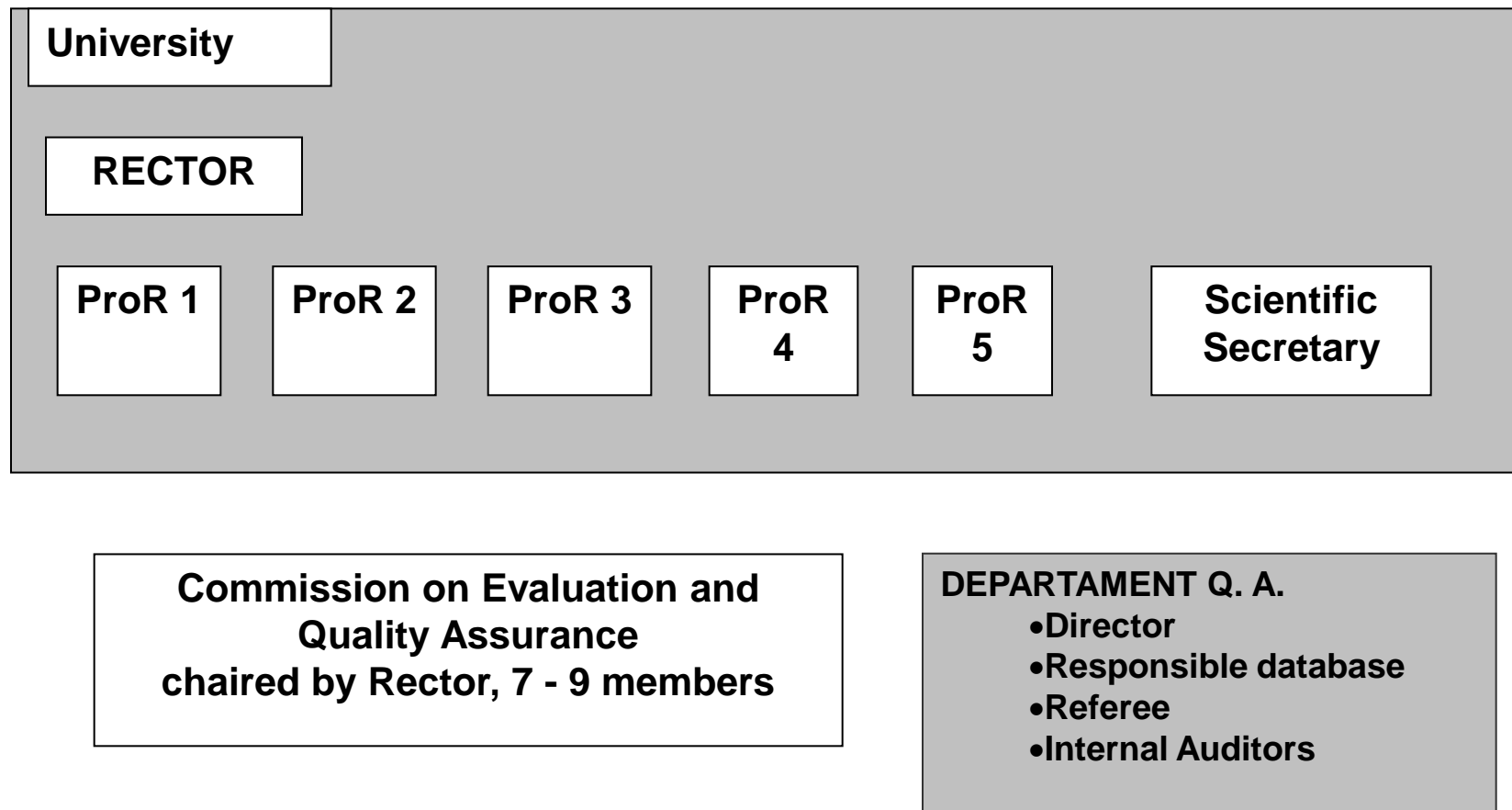
Within „Ovidius” University of Constanta, one of the objectives regarding quality assurance refers to the development of a quality culture at the level of the entire academic community.

Only within these coordinates can be realized the mission of **“Ovidius” University** as a whole and of each Faculty in turn.

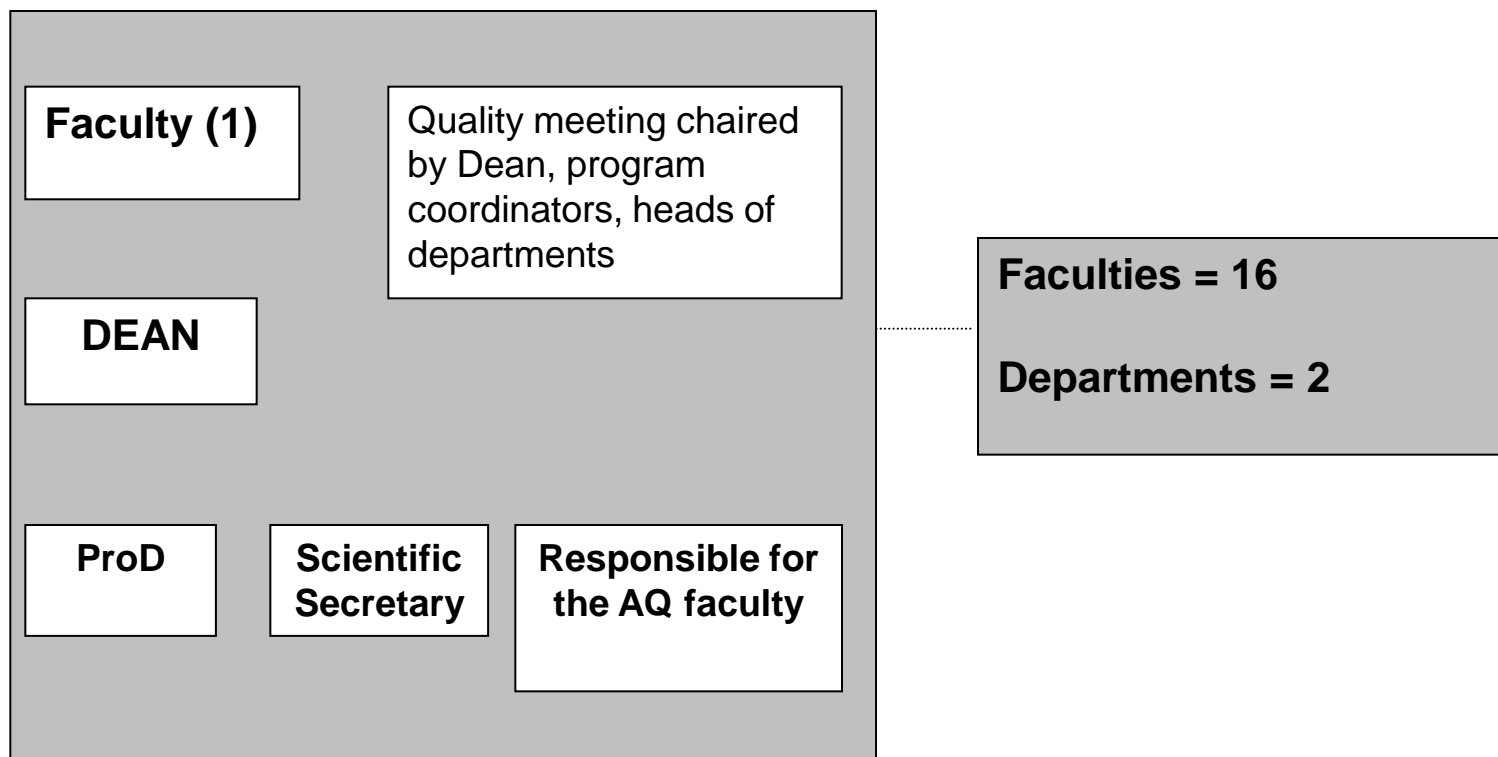
In order to accomplish this objective, a series of operational structures were activated to coordinate and implement the actions of quality assurance:

- *The Commission for Quality Assurance and Evaluation*
- *The Department for Quality Assurance in Higher Education*
- *The Responsible for quality assurance within each Faculty*
- *The Program Coordinators.*

THE INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



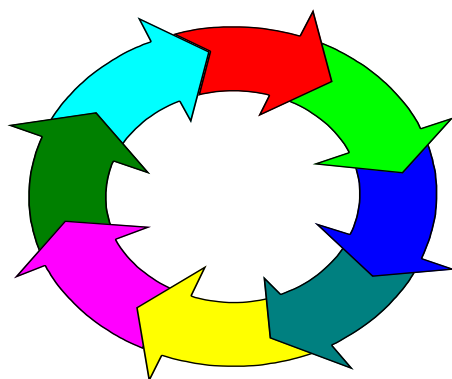
THE INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



THE INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Department Head

RAQ - Responsible for Quality Assurance program of study



**Quality
Responsible**

**Schedule of meetings that the quality problems of lead in
all the structures, in turn, for each Faculty and for
Administration.**

Responsibilities and Authorities

- ***Rector:*** *it monitors the activity in the University and signals the totality of problems that occur in the system from the perspective of quality assurance.*
- ***Commission for Evaluation and Quality Assurance:*** *contributes to the development of a culture quality in the University, both at the level of the academic and administrative staff and at the level of students.*
- ***Dean:*** *is responsible for the quality assurance of academic programs, for the allocation of classrooms and their equipment, for the purchasing of necessary library volumes, teaching techniques, practical activities, evaluation of Bachelor exams, Dissertations and admission exams and also for the institutional evaluation of the Faculty.*
- ***Head of Department:*** *is responsible for the implementation and Quality Management System conformity to the reference standard at the department level, but he is also responsible for a number of good practices such as: the evaluation of the teaching staff, of the scientific research and the institutional evaluation of the department.*

Responsibilities and Authorities

- ***Program coordinator:*** *take care that activities such as promotions and the evaluations of the teaching staff be done with objectivity and respecting the requirements of a qualitative higher education within a tridimensional system of landmarks: **competence-aptitudes-attitudes**. Over the entire study period, the persons responsible for the program keep in touch with the students through their representatives.*
- ***Academic staff:*** *is responsible for the quality of the teaching act, of student activities, but is also responsible for the quality of the academic program in which he is partner/takes part.*
- ***Supporting staff:*** *is responsible for the quality of the administrative activities that occur within the University, as well as for the students' satisfaction according to the services offered.*

Politics and strategies for quality assurance

The politics for quality assurance within „Ovidius“ University of Constanta, elaborated by the Senate, demonstrates the central place of quality in the institutional strategy and the full involvement of the management at the highest level for the accomplishment of the objectives regarding quality:

- *the development of efficient structures such as Bachelor - Master -PhD, compatible to those from the European Union.*
- *excellence in research, infrastructure development.*
- *the improvement of learning conditions, of social services and of the quality of institutional management.*

Politics and strategies for quality assurance

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- *Assessment of all programs from the University by the self-evaluation and peer review system;*
- *Defining a complete and documented set of procedures;*
- *Finalizing the Institutional evaluation at faculty level;*
- *Institutional assessment at the University level;*
- *Testing the ABET system (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology) for the technical faculties.*

Performance indicators are derived from the strategic objectives of the organization and are structured in hierarchical levels.

Politics and strategies for quality assurance

Starting from the objectives approved at institutional level, clear objectives are then established for each Faculty and study program.

The politics and strategies are activated in each compartment and they stimulate the participation of each member of the teaching staff and the students to their accomplishment.

The quality assurance policy that applies within „Ovidius” University of Constanta is permanently correlated to the actions promoted at European and international level, while the quality of educational and research services is provided by:

- *The planning of educational services;*
- *The monitoring of the didactic and research processes;*
- *The internal evaluation of the results of didactic and research processes;*
- *The continuous improvement of the educational and research services offered by „Ovidius” University of Constanta.*

Strategy of "Ovidius" University of Constanta

The strategy of "Ovidius" University of Constanta in the field of quality aims at the following objectives:

- The promotion of its own quality culture and of the Ovidius *brand*, based on *values* such as:
 - *Creativity and innovation*
 - *Enterprising spirit.*
- The integration by 2012 in the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and in the European Research Area (ERA), in order to play an *active role* in the sustainable development of Dobrogea and the Black Sea area;

In view of accomplishing its *mission* to be part of EHEA and ERA,
the institutional academic management promotes
the fundamental European values synthesized into the following generic aspects:

 - *Cultural diversity*
 - *Sustainable development*
 - *Cooperation and synergy*
 - *Networking .*

Strategy of "Ovidius" University of Constanta

- The involvement of students in the educational activity will be accomplished both as beneficiary and as partner to the didactic act;
- The maintenance of an efficient policy and strategy regarding the provision of qualitative educational services.
- The *selection* and *integration* for didactic career of the best graduates, with the purpose of providing a balance between generations;
- The maintenance of an adequate work environment, a fundamental objective for the implication of the staff in the enhancing of the performances in "Ovidius" University.
- The continuous development of the infrastructure.
- The provision of conformity and continuous improvement of the efficiency of the **Quality Management System**.

Mission statement on quality management

**In order to meet the quality assurance standards,
“Ovidius” University of Constanta has settled on the following strategic goals:**

- *to promote complex quality assurance systems and mechanisms.*
- *to continually improve the quality of the institutional management.*
- *to ensure quality standards compatible with other European countries.*
- *to continually improve quality standards regarding the development, evaluation, revision and improvement of performance indicators and to correlate them with job-imposed requirements.*
- *to raise the standard levels of performance indicators.*
- *to ensure the compatibility between our curricula and European curricula, in order to render academic degree standards and quality assurance standards more comparable and compatible throughout Europe.*
- *to strengthen international cooperation and European cooperation in particular through jointly developed teaching and research programs.*



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Perspectives...

**In order to achieve these goals, the management of the
“Ovidius” University of Constanta
continues to improve the system for quality assurance and evaluation
by creating new instruments
and using their efficient at the level of each study program, at the level of
University structures and the respective Faculties.**



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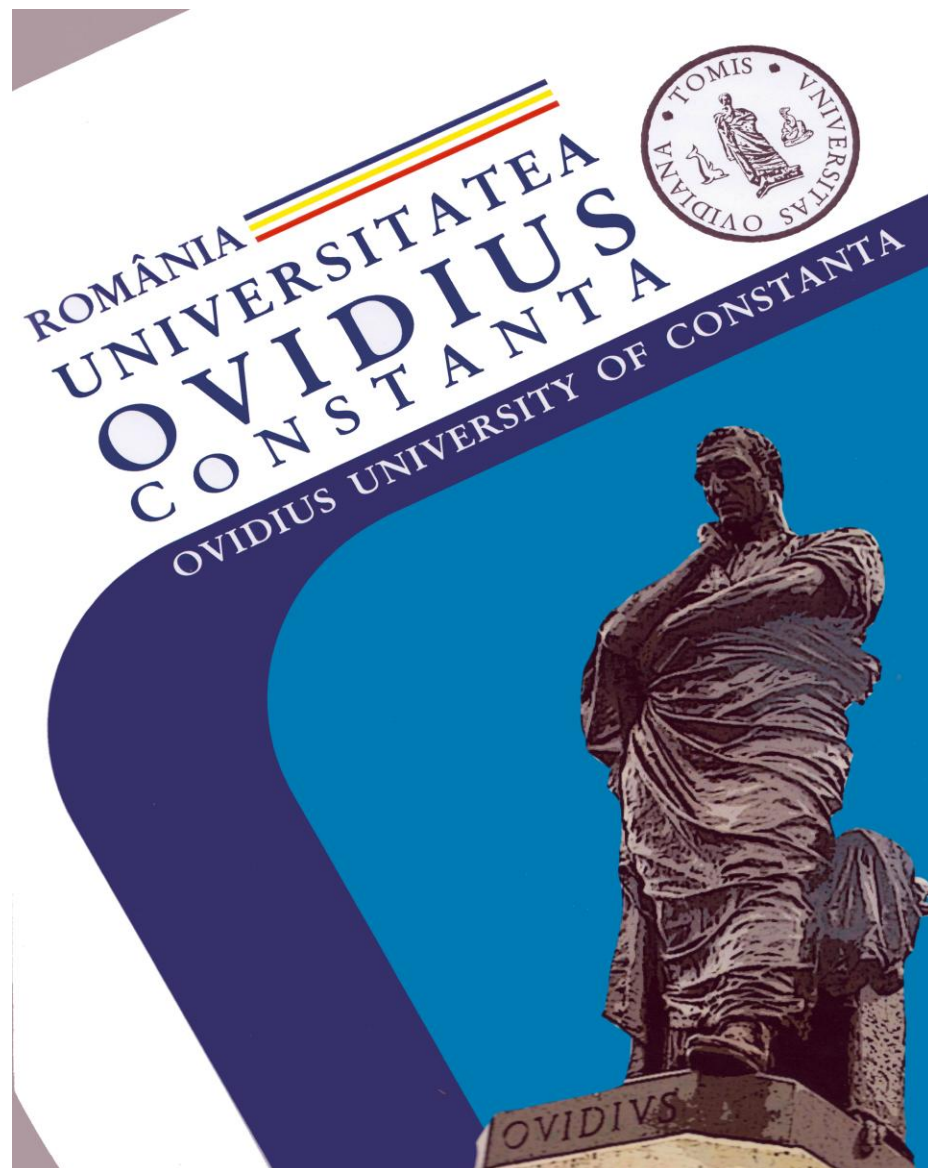


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OVIDIUS UNIVERSITY OF CONSTANTA – ROMANIA
Thank you!



The 2nd International Conference: Institutional Strategic Quality Management
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