Dear students,

If you decide to study medicine in Brno, you will get not only top-quality professional education at all facilities of the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University, but also a possibility of enjoying a rich cultural life. Brno is a highly interesting mediaeval city transformed into a comfortable and modern metropolis of southern Moravia. It lies in the central part of Europe, in the territory of the Czech Republic, and it is the second largest city of the country. At the same time it is the centre of Moravia, which is one of the historical countries of the Czech Crown. Being situated in a picturesque landscape, it has an area of 230 square kilometres, on hills of 190 to 425 metres above sea level.

Brno is the second largest centre of education in the Czech Republic. At the present time there are 6 universities in Brno with 27 faculties and about 60 000 students in the regular full-time form of study. Masaryk University is the second largest university in the Czech Republic. It consists of nine faculties (Faculties of Law, Medicine, Science, Arts, Education, Economics and Administration, Informatics, Social Studies, and Sports Studies). The total number of students is about 30 000.

The Faculty of Medicine was founded in 1919 as one of the first faculties of Masaryk University in Brno. Presently, the Faculty of Medicine includes 66 institutes and clinics, employing 1077 personnel. In the two faculty hospitals (Faculty Hospital of Brno, St. Anne’s Faculty Hospital) there are 3100 beds accessible for teaching. The total number of students is about 4500.

Recently, a new University Campus has been built in close vicinity of the largest Faculty Hospital. The first part
St. Anne’s Faculty Hospital is situated at the premises of the oldest hospital of Brno; it originated from monastic buildings in 1786. In 1866 its reconstruction from the side of Pekařská Street was finished by T. Hansen. Nowadays it belongs to Brno’s architectural treasures. Since the 1990s, St. Anne’s Faculty Hospital has been gradually finished and reconstructed to the appearance of a health-service institution meeting the requirements of therapeutical needs of current medicine.

The individual departments and clinics of St. Anne’s Faculty Hospital provide tuition and practical training for medical students.

The Masaryk Oncological Institute closely co-operates with the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University through the University Oncological Centre. This institute belongs to the top-ranking oncological workplaces in the Czech Republic.

The professional qualifications of the teaching staff at the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University, as well as hospital facilities built up conceptually and in a modern style including their equipment with medical outfit, guarantee a high-quality preparation of future physicians. Besides the principal health and therapeutical programmes, the clinics in Brno are also involved in highly specialised projects. Many faculty teachers are outstanding in their research work, their results being well known even outside our country. They guide students interested in this field to these investigatory activities. Every year competitions for the best student scientific work are held.

STUDIES AT THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Degree Programmes
The Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University in Brno offers several curricula. The Master’s study programme of General Medicine takes six years, the programme of Dentistry lasts five years. These programmes are taught in Czech and, for international students who are self-payers, also in English.

About 600-700 Czech-speaking students are admit-
ted yearly to the Faculty of Medicine and, additionally to them, about 100 foreign self-paying students. After passing the state examinations at the end of their study, the students are awarded the degree of MUDr. (Medicinae Universae Doctor) or MDDr. (Medicinae Dentalis Doctor) or Bc. (Bachelor of Health Sciences). The degrees are fully recognised in the EU and in most other countries at least for a limited registration, but students should ask the authorities or professional bodies in their countries for information about the conditions for a full registration and recognition of the degree required to practice medicine in their countries. The Faculty is listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools published by the WHO (7th edition, 2000, p. 105).

The specialists in oral medicine are educated in the study programme of Dentistry, which is comparable with current European standards. After five years of study students will be awarded the corresponding degree of MDDr. (Medicinae Dentalis Doctor). They will be qualified to practise in all fields of dental care. About 60 Czech-speaking and 15 foreign students are admitted yearly.

There are also three-year programmes available in Health Care and Nursing, which lead to the degree of Bachelor (abbreviated as Bc.). These programmes are more practically focused and include specialisations in Human Nutrition, Nursing, Therapeutical Rehabilitation and Physiotherapy, Optics – Optometry, Midwifery, and Laboratory Technician. Graduated bachelor students may continue in two-year advanced studies leading to the Master’s degree (abbreviated as Mgr.).

MORE DETAILS ABOUT THE MEDICAL CURRICULUM

Courses
The medical curriculum consists of 6 years of study. It is “subject-oriented”. The first two years involve courses in the fundamental theoretical subjects (Medical Terminology, First Aid, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Biophysics, Biology, Anatomy, Histology and Embryology, Neurosciences, and Physiology). The 3rd year includes subjects of preclinical education (courses of Pathological Anatomy, Pathological Physiology, Immunology, Microbiology, Community Medicine); however, courses providing practical skill training prior to the clinical phase are also included (Clinical Examination in Internal Medicine and Clinical Examination in Surgery). Pharmacology is taught in the 6th and 7th semesters. The following 2 years involve studies of clinical subjects (Internal Medicine, Surgery, Gynaecology and Obstetrics, Paediatrics, Neurology, Psychiatry, Dermatovenereology, Ophthalmology, Otorhinolaryngology, Orthopaedics, Forensic Medicine, Preventive Medicine, Oncology, and Intensive Care Medicine). The 6th year is an internship in Internal Medicine (7 weeks), Surgery (5 weeks), and Family Medicine (3 weeks of work with a general practitioner for adults and one week of work with a general practitioner for children). The tuition in the preclinical part is organised weekly and examinations are only taken during the examination period at the end of the semester. Beginning from the 7th semester, tuition in the individual subjects is organised in one- or two-week blocks. The seminars, practical training and bedside teaching are concentrated in morning blocks of a daily duration of six hours. Obligatory lectures are held in the afternoons, eligible lectures are usually held in late afternoons or in the evenings.

The curriculum also contains obligatory summer vacation practical trainings after the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th years.

Admissions of students
Every applicant must have completed successfully at least 4 years of studies at a secondary school closed by a school-leaving examination (maturity examination). Students are admitted on the basis of an entrance examination which includes written multiple-choice tests in Chemistry, Biology, and Physics. The number of Czech applicants in the last three years was about 2,000, the number of accepted applicants ranged between 350 – 400.
Examinations, grading system
To complete a course means to fulfill its requirements in one of the following ways: course-unit credit, colloquium, examination, state doctoral examination.
Oral examinations and written tests are used for the evaluation of knowledge. Examinations are discipline-based and are held by departments. There is usually an examination at the end of each course. The examination often consists of a written and an oral part; sometimes the written part is of an elimination character. A component of some clinical examinations is also a practical exam involving patient cases. In addition, the student knowledge and practical skills are constantly evaluated during seminars and practical work, mainly using shorter tests or essays.
The final evaluation – State Doctoral Examination – consists of four exams (Public Health, Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Internal Medicine and Surgery) which the student has to pass during the 11th and 12th semesters.

STUDY OF FOREIGN STUDENTS

English programme
The study programmes of General Medicine and Dentistry are also offered in English. Students studying in the English programme are obliged to pay a tuition fee. Students coming to the Faculty of Medicine under the Socrates-Erasmus Programme may join the study in this English programme free of charge.

Conditions of admission for foreign student self-payers:
Every foreign student must have completed successfully at least 4 years of studies at a secondary school (high school) closed by a school-leaving examination. A survey of their secondary school results and a school-leaving certificate are required. The students are accepted on the basis of a written entrance examination in the following subjects: Physics, Chemistry, and Biology.

The Entrance examination takes place in Brno usually in May - students must apply for admission to the Faculty of Medicine via an electronic version of the application form available on www.med.muni.cz. Applicants from selected countries can contact our representatives and take the entrance examination in their home countries (see the list on the web page).

The fees
The English study of General Medicine costs 9,000 EURO per year and the study of Dentistry costs 9,500 EURO per year (each year of study consists of two semesters). This sum holds for those who pay the tuition fee for the whole relevant academic year. The tuition fee can also be paid in two parts. It means that the student can pay separately for each semester. In this case the price is raised by administration expenses, and thus each semester of General Medicine in English costs 4,750 EURO (altogether 9,500 EURO for a whole year of General Medicine) and each semester of Dentistry in English costs 5,000 EURO (altogether 10,000 EURO for a whole year of Dentistry).

Accommodation
Student hostels providing accommodation and catering for foreign students are situated in Vinařská Street and Kounicova Street. They belong to the most modern hostels in the Czech Republic and are located near the centre of the town. Twin-beded rooms and rooms with three beds are equipped with a kitchenette containing a refrigerator and a cooker, a separate bathroom, and a toilet.

Cost of living and accommodation
The Czech Republic does not provide any social benefits to foreign citizens in the course of their university studies. Scholarships and subsidies of the Czech Republic for accommodation in the student halls of residence or for meals in students’ refectories cannot be provided to foreign self-paying students. The students have to support themselves totally when studying, including full payments for accommodation and meals.
The Czech currency is “koruna” (Czech crown, CZK). One Euro (EU) ≈ 28 to 29 Kč, 1 USD ≈ 18 to 19 Kč. Money can be exchanged at any bank or change office. Using credit cards, cash can be obtained from cash machines. Credit cards are accepted in larger shops, hotels, and restaurants.

The expenses of foreign students for accommodation in the student halls of residence (one room for two or three students) are about 150 EU per month, the amount being subject to change due to economic situation, while the meals (3 times a day) in an academic refectory cost about 5–6 EU per day.

The Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University has applied to the U.S. Department of Education for eligibility to participate in federal student financial aid programs. Review of the application is in process.

Health insurance
Students have to take out their insurance individually with any health insurance company in their home country or with the General Health Insurance Company in the Czech Republic or elsewhere, where they have to pay for all the health care themselves. Only a very limited basic health care is granted to students coming from countries contracted by the Czech government.

Clearing a temporary stay in the Czech Republic
All non-EU foreigners who come to study in the Czech Republic have to get visa. It is necessary to apply for the clearing of a temporary stay at the Czech Embassy in your respective home country as soon as possible (it takes about two months), so this document should be obtained before travelling to the Czech Republic.

FURTHER INFORMATION
For detailed information on the Faculty of Medicine of Masaryk University see its website www.med.muni.cz.
Brno has many interesting sights which are carefully preserved. Numerous legends have been woven round these places. In view of its position at the boundary between the Bohemian-Moravian Highlands and the lowlands, the city also has beautiful surroundings and a convenient climate. Near the city there is a large artificial lake for recreation accessible by public transport, and the actual city is surrounded by woods on three sides. Nearby you can also find stalactite caves belonging to the famous Moravian Carst area. In winter you can easily go to the Highlands, which is an ideal place for skiing. There are two rivers passing through Brno, Svatka and Svitava. It is a city of many renowned Czech writers, poets, composers, artists, and architects, who create its abundant cultural history. There are large sports centres, racing courses for cars and motorcycles, and a large exhibition ground where many exhibitions and international trade fairs have been taking place every year.

The city is also popular thanks to its many historical and reconstructed buildings, shopping centres, restaurants, pubs, cafes, wine-rooms and wine-cellars, business and leisure centres, well-kept parks and valuable artefacts placed in public areas. Thanks to its location at the very heart of Central Europe, getting to Brno is quite simple, whether by plane, train, coach, bus or car.

Further interesting information on Brno can be obtained at the address http://www.brno.cz/index.php?lan=en.
IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

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Phone: +420 543 181 111

Dpt. of Cosmetic and Plastic Surgery,
Berkova 34
Phone: +420 541 582 111

Dpt. of Stomatology,
Pekařská 53
Phone: +420 543 181 111

Dpt. of Forensic Medicine,
Tvrdého 2a Phone: +420 543 240 811

University Hospital Brno

University Hospital of Bohunice
CZ-639 00 Brno, Jihlavská 20
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Centre for Reproductive Medicine
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