

KLAIPĖDA UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF HOLISTIC MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

**IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL EXTERNAL EVALUATION OF THE
REHABILITATION FIELD (FIRST- AND SECOND-CYCLE) STUDY PROGRAMMES**

PROGRESS REPORT

2023-2024

Evaluation area	Recommendations by experts at the last evaluation	Scope and deadlines for implementation of recommendations	Planned actions by the higher education institution in the evaluation area and deadlines	Remarks
1. Intended and achieved learning outcomes and curriculum	1. Improve cooperation with other similar universities in Lithuania.	2022–2024. Participation in the working group for updating the description of the Rehabilitation study field. The working group includes all higher education institutions offering programmes in the Rehabilitation field. Prof. Dr. Daiva Mockevičienė participated in the working group. In February and May 2024, a 6-hour seminar “Balance, Vestibular System and Dysfunction” was delivered by lecturer Viktoras Simanavičius: • For lecturers and students of Vilnius College; • For lecturers and students of Šiauliai State University of Applied Sciences; • For specialists of the Valakampiai Rehabilitation Centre; • For rehabilitation specialists of Klaipėda City.	Autumn/Spring semesters of 2024/2025. Autumn/Spring semesters of 2025/2026. Organisation of international scientific-practical conferences. Presentation of papers at conferences organised by other higher education institutions.	

		In June 2024, lecturer Viktoras Simanavičius together with LSMU Prof. Dr. Laimonas Šiupšinskas conducted an 8-hour seminar for physiotherapists, “Shoulder Joint, Pathologies and Rehabilitation,” for physiotherapists of Western Lithuania.		
		A conference was organised in cooperation with partners, and papers were presented on the topic “Effectiveness and Safety of the Use of Lithuania’s Unique Natural Resources for Improving Stress-Related Mental and Physical Health.” Presentations were delivered by J. Noack, R. Gikarienė, V. Simanavičius, D. Mockevičienė, and K. Mažionytė.		
		A scientific/practical conference was organised together with social partners, the children’s sanatorium Palangos Gintaras, on the topic “Children’s Health and Rehabilitation.” Presentations were delivered by J. Noack, L. Žalienė, and D. Mockevičienė.		
	2. Ensure that Lithuanian and Ukrainian teachers and students are proficient in the languages of the joint program.	Five lecturers of the Department attended and successfully completed English language courses organised by KU.	Autumn/Spring semesters of 2024/2025. Autumn/Spring semesters of 2025/2026. Provide opportunities for students to study Lithuanian and English.	
		Students from Ukraine attend lectures in English and Lithuanian and additionally participate in English and Lithuanian language training programmes organised by KU.		
	3. Ensure that the final theses of the first- and second-cycle study programmes better reflect cooperation with social partners and their interests, so that the	In June 2024, a round table discussion was organised with managers and specialists of rehabilitation institutions (representatives of 29 institutions of Western Lithuania participated). The following issues were discussed: 1. Organisation of physiotherapy students’ internships in institutions.	Autumn/Spring semesters of 2024/2025. Autumn/Spring semesters of 2025/2026. Organise round table discussions with social	

	selected topics would be more useful in developing evidence-based practice in the region.	2. Possibility for students to write final theses on topics relevant to social partners. 3. Shortage of occupational therapy specialists in Western Lithuania. It was decided to update the Occupational Therapy study programme. 4. Opportunities for PASP specialists to integrate into healthcare institutions: our graduate was employed at Palangos Pušynas sanatorium as a PASP acupuncture specialist; at Šventoji Energetikas sanatorium – as a PASP phytotherapy specialist. Ten graduates established private institutions where they carry out activities.	partners working in the field of rehabilitation.	
		In 2023, the Master's thesis by PAM graduate Kornelija Mažionytė, "Relationships between Inner Harmony, Burnout and Lifestyle of Teachers in Klaipėda City", won a competition organised by Klaipėda City Municipality and was awarded a prize	Spring semester of 2024/2025. Spring semester of 2025/2026. Present Master's theses in organised competitions.	
		Žalienė, L., Bundzienė, T., & Mažionytė, K. (2024, August 07). EFFECTIVENESS OF ACUPUNCTURE ON THE RESTORATION OF MOTOR AND COGNITIVE FUNCTIONS IN PATIENTS AFTER STROKE: A systematic review of randomised controlled trials. Complementary Therapies in Medicine. (Submitted for publication).	Autumn/Spring semesters of 2024/2025. Autumn/Spring semesters of 2025/2026. Articles jointly prepared by lecturers and students.	

		Žalienė, L., & Arup, I. (2024). The relationship between back pain, functional mobility, and dynamic stability in women after cesarean section. <i>Rehabilitation Sciences: Nursing, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy</i> , 1(30), 15–24. https://doi.org/10.33607/rmske.v1i30.1481		
		Žalienė, L., Bartauskas, D., & Mažonas, O. (2023). The effects of selective dorsal rhizotomy on leg muscle tone, electrical activity, and gait in children with cerebral palsy. <i>Health Sciences</i> , 33(7), 146–150. Vilnius: Health Sciences.		
		A higher education textbook, “Complementary and Alternative Health Care”, was published (editors: D. Mockevičienė and A. Kirkutis). The textbook consists of ten chapters, the authors of which are primarily lecturers from the department.		
	4. It is advisable to better define the conceptual commonality of the aims and objectives of the various therapies listed in the second-cycle Complementary and Alternative Medicine programme.	Since 2020, Prof. Dr. Daiva Mockevičienė has been a member of the Development Committee for Complementary and Alternative Health Care of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania.	Autumn semester of 2024/2025. Autumn semester of 2025/2026.	
		Lecturers of the Department of Holistic Medicine and Rehabilitation participated in the preparation working groups for the Lithuanian medical standards (MN) for PASP specialists: V. Simanavičius (MN for PASP Acupuncture	The committee of the PAM study programme reviews and updates the programme’s learning	

		Specialist), D. Mockevičienė (MN for PASP Hippotherapy Specialist; MN for PASP Apitherapy Specialist), L. Žalienė and J. Noack (MN for PASP Ayurveda Specialist), R. Urbonienė and V. Matulevičiūtė (MN for PASP Phytotherapy Specialist).	outcomes, on the basis of which the objectives and outcomes of individual subjects are examined and revised.	
		In the autumn of 2023, the name of the Master's study programme was changed to Complementary and Alternative Health Care.		
	5. Ensure that mature students in the second-cycle study programme have sufficient proficiency in English.	Recommended literature in English is provided to students of the second-cycle study programme during lectures.	Autumn semester of 2024/2025. Autumn semester of 2025/2026. Encourage students to use scientific literature in English.	
	6. Collaborate with other Lithuanian universities to establish complementary and alternative therapy as a regulated profession.	KU has developed and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania (SAM) has accredited PASP training programmes, upon completion of which students are awarded a PASP Specialist License: • PASP Ayurveda Training Programme (480 hours) • PASP Acupuncture Training Programme (480 hours) • PASP Apitherapy Training Programme (480 hours) • PASP Aromatherapy Training Programme (480 hours) • PASP Dolphin Therapy Training Programme (480 hours) • PASP Hippotherapy Training Programme (480 hours)	Autumn semester of 2024/2025. Autumn semester of 2025/2026. Develop PASP training programmes leading to a PASP Specialist License.	

		• PASP Phytotherapy Training Programme (480 hours) • PASP Canis Therapy Training Programme (480 hours) • PASP Endobiogenics Training Programme (480 hours) • PASP Hirudotherapy Training Programme (480 hours) To date, 24 second-cycle students have completed these programmes and obtained PASP Specialist Licenses.		
2. Links between science (art) and studies	1. Encourage the preparation of scientific articles for indexed journals.	In October 2023, at a departmental meeting, the Head of the KU Science Department participated and informed lecturers about opportunities to publish scientific articles. Žalienė, L., Tumosienė, G., & Boltutienė, J. (2024, August 27). The impact of physical activity on the physical and functional status of adults with intellectual disabilities. Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities. (Submitted for publication). Žalienė, L., & Šilalytė, L. (2024, August 23). The effect of yogic relaxation practice Šavasana for people suffering from anxiety. Journal of Ayurveda and Integrative Medicine. (Submitted for publication). Žalienė, L., Bundzienė, T., & Mažionytė, K. (2024, August 07). EFFECTIVENESS OF ACUPUNCTURE ON THE RESTORATION OF MOTOR AND COGNITIVE FUNCTIONS IN PATIENTS AFTER STROKE: A systematic review of randomised controlled trials. Complementary Therapies in Medicine. (Submitted for publication).	Autumn semester of 2024/2025. Autumn semester of 2025/2026. Organize a meeting of the HMR Department, inviting specialists from the Science Department to provide information on opportunities to publish articles. Prepare articles. Planned number of articles to be submitted: 4.	

		Žalienė, L., Mačerauskas, E., Žalys, V., Dovydaityienė, M., & Mizgerienė, V. (2024, April 01). The effect of a specialized massage chair on body behavior and electrical muscle activity of children with autism spectrum disorders. BioMed Research International. (Submitted for publication).		
	2. Improve rehabilitation research laboratories.	- Holistic Medicine Cabinet was prepared. - New diagnostic equipment was acquired for the Neurosensomotor Diagnostics Laboratory.	Autumn semester of 2024/2025. Autumn semester of 2025/2026. Prepare guidelines for a research project that will include the acquisition of laboratory equipment.	
	3. Refine the scientific identity of the Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM) course (collecting comprehensive information on various alternative medicines and procedures).	- Lecturers participated in and delivered presentations at the Lithuanian Phytotherapists Summer Conference, 01–03 August 2024. A practical presentation on Ayurvedic Nutrition was delivered for phytotherapists. - Participation in the preparation groups for medical standards of SAM PASP specialists.	Autumn/Spring semesters of 2024/2025. Autumn/Spring semesters of 2025/2026. Organize conferences and seminars.	
3. Student admission and support	1. Promote student mobility.	Second-year first-cycle students participated in physiotherapy internships in Spain for 2 months under the Erasmus+ programme.	Autumn/Spring semesters of 2024/2025. Autumn/Spring semesters of 2025/2026. Each year, students from each programme would participate in the Erasmus exchange programme.	
	2. Improve the promotion of study programmes and	Lecturers and students of the Department participated in study fairs.	Autumn/Spring semesters of 2024/2025.	

	the field of study, taking into account the decreasing number of applications and enrolled students.	- Conducted 12 educational sessions in the Neurosensomotor Diagnostics Laboratory for senior high school students. - HMR Department lecturers teach classes and supervise research projects at KU Žemyna Gymnasium.	Autumn/Spring semesters of 2025/2026. Participate in various events to promote study programmes.	
4. Teaching and learning, student performance and graduate employment	1. Ensure that conditions are provided to meet the needs of students with disabilities (e.g., those with visual or hearing impairments, etc.).	The library is equipped with special facilities necessary for students with disabilities.	Autumn/Spring semesters of 2024/2025. Autumn/Spring semesters of 2025/2026. Planned acquisition of equipment for individuals with visual impairments.	
5. Teaching staff	1. Increase the number of staff working in the field of physiotherapy.	Seven lecturers teaching specialty subjects hold physiotherapist licenses.	Autumn/Spring semesters of 2024/2025 and 2025/2026. Employ a lecturer/physiotherapist holding a doctoral degree.	
	2. Employ staff with experience in occupational therapy.	Develop a Bachelor's program in Occupational Therapy and begin student admission in 2025.	Autumn semester 2024. Develop a Bachelor's program in Occupational Therapy.	
	3. Enhance academic mobility by offering academic leave for extended study periods at other universities.	Jūratė Noack – Long-term/Sessional Internship, Germany, Birstein Ayurveda Ernährung (since 01–06 August 2023). Modules: “Ayurveda Phytotherapy and Pharmacology”, Germany, Birstein, 08–11 February 2024. “Ayurveda Diagnostic”, Germany, Birstein, 13–16 December 2024. “Ayurveda Manual Therapy”, Germany, Birstein, 19–25 July 2024.	Autumn/Spring semesters 2024/2025. Autumn/Spring semesters 2025/2026. Encourage lecturers to participate in long-term internships abroad.	

		In connection with Ayurvedic medicine studies, a diploma in “Basic Education in Ayurvedic Medicine” is planned.		
	4. If possible, expand academic visits beyond Europe.	- At the international EUCAPA Congress in Seville, a presentation was delivered: Žalienė, Laura. “The Effect of Physical Activity on the Functional Capacity of Adults with Intellectual Disabilities.” Keywords: physical activity, functional capacity, adults, intellectual disability. EUCAPA 2024: Book of Abstracts, European Journal of Adapted Physical Activity 2024, 17, 10; doi: 10.5507/euj.2024.007. - Jūratė Noack participated in Erasmus+ at Lomza University, Poland. Presentation: “Ayurvedic Nutrition for a Healthy and Happy Life.” 24 May 2024. - Jūratė Noack also participated in the International Scientific Phytotherapists’ Conference in Ireland, Herbstfest, 16–18 May 2024.		
Learning facilities and resources	1. Increase the number of seats in the library reading room.	In 2023, the library began operating in new premises.	Autumn/Spring semesters 2024/2025 and 2025/2026. Improve library operations by providing more reading room spaces.	
	2. Acquire equipment to encourage faculty and students to conduct higher-quality scientific research.	Current equipment acquired (2024, Neurosensomotor Diagnostics Laboratory): - Psychomotor Test Set (Shuffried) - Myoton Pro non-invasive muscle tone analyzer - Balance Assessment System - RehaCom cognitive training program - Professional segmental body composition analyzer	Autumn/Spring semesters 2024/2025 and 2025/2026. Carry out projects that enable the acquisition of new laboratory equipment.	

		6. Sniffin' Sticks olfactory test kit 7. Monofilaments for sensitivity testing 8. Innovative physiotherapy system		
	3. To increase KU's competitiveness, seek new partner universities.	Due to the ongoing war in UK, the university currently cannot ethically refuse partners.	2025/2026 Fall/Spring semesters. In collaboration with foreign universities, seek new partners.	
Study quality management and public information	1. Apply key performance indicators (KPIs) in the quality assurance system.			
	2. Promote the development of the KU Department of Holistic Medicine and Rehabilitation Alumni Association.	• Most graduates of the master's program continue their studies to obtain PASP specialist licenses. • A Student Scientific Society was established in the KU Department of Holistic Medicine and Rehabilitation. • Graduates participate in conferences organized by the department.	2024/2025 Fall/Spring semesters. 2025/2026 Fall/Spring semesters. Invite graduates annually to conferences and seminars.	

Signature of the Chair of the Study Field Committee

Doc. dr. Iuliana Andrei

Position, first name, last name

[Signature]
Signature

Date

Pătrășcuțu SKk 2024m. 09.18
Protocol Nr. PMF-SKk-1