REPORT

After a survey conducted at the Megatrend University regarding Strengthening Student Role in Governance and Management at the Universities of Serbia we have concluded the following. We’ve found that all the institutions of Megatrend University have organized their student representatives in parliaments and that they also have a student vice-dean. Student representatives regularly participate in faculty meetings, where they are able to give suggestions, proposals and to present their problems in order to improve the quality of teaching, curriculum and extracurricular activities.

Although Megatrend University has very young institutions that have been formed only a few years ago, student organizations have the most significant role in the improvements and the work of each graduate school. What is observed as a unique element of Megatrend university is the fact that student representatives at its institutions rarely have specific requirements and are very satisfied with their academic education as indicated by regular evaluation of teaching.

This is expected if we consider the fact that private universities are in equal fight for students in a limited market. That is the reason why private universities are required to create competitive advantages in order to attract students. This advantage is primarily Megatrend University’s policy where the teaching staff is fully oriented towards students’ needs.

Megatrend University offers attractive curricula, recognized experts, transparent system of evaluation, evaluation of the subject and teachers, contemporary literature, technical support for all students as well as organized volunteer work and practices that help students gain important experiences like their colleagues at the successful foreign universities.

Also, during the study period students are provided additional benefits in terms of teaching, a greater number of consultations per week, availability of teachers to students, mentoring. This way students’ needs are provided in advance.

It is also necessary to mention that the policy of tuitions at the private universities are predetermined and that students don’t have concerns or problems with the points as is often the case with state universities.

The problem that arises in our institutions is how to attract students to participate in the student organizing processes. We meet with low interest of students in participation in student representative bodies, either because they meet no major difficulties in establishing direct communication with not only faculty, but with university management as well, either because the parliamentary student organizations of our institutions are still young, and most of them are still in its infancy.

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