



# **EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF LEFKE**

## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2025**



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European University of Lefke



Welcome to the  
**EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY OF LEFKE**

“ Student-centred,  
high quality education  
at international standards ”

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## **Foreword from the Rector**

European University of Lefke (EUL) is a non-profit state-foundation university established by the Cyprus Science Foundation and commenced operations in 1990. Our university aims to cultivate knowledgeable, research-oriented, and innovative individuals who are proficient in the skills and technologies required in the information age and possess expertise in fields such as health, education, arts, and communication, through its specialised, distinguished, and successful academic staff. Thus, EUL plays an important role in helping students realise their maximum potential and gain professional working skills in the global world. Our graduates proudly represent EUL through the professional successes they achieve in their careers.

Since its establishment, our university has demonstrated significant progress in education, research, innovation, and community service, clearly keeping pace with global advancements in higher education. In recent years, the university has gained momentum through program-based accreditations, expanded research and innovation capacity, increased internationalization, and enhanced visibility within society.

EUL has successfully obtained accreditation for 32 different programmes from respected international institutions. In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the number of international publications and participation in international scientific events. The growing number of national and international scientific events organized by our university has, on the one hand, enhanced its visibility on both national and international stages, and on the other hand, added value to the community it serves. As a result of developments in all these areas, our University was ranked in the 851-900 band in the QS World University Rankings 2026, which is considered a reliable source in higher education worldwide. EUL's inclusion in the 851-900 band of this ranking, placing it among globally evaluated institutions, is a concrete demonstration of our academic excellence, international outlook, and research-driven approach. This achievement reinforces our university's commitment to pursuing more advanced goals on a global scale.

**Prof. Dr. Mehmet Ali Yükselen**

**Rector**

## **1 Introduction and Overview**

The European University of Lefke (EUL) is a non-profit state-foundation university located in North Cyprus. It was established as a state-foundation university under the auspices of the Cyprus Science Foundation in 1990. Guided by the philosophy that science and education are universal in our age, EUL offers a broad range of contemporary educational programs and is committed to maintaining international standards of excellence. EUL, ranked in the 851-900 band in the QS World University Rankings, is a leading higher education institution in the region, and its structures align with the Bologna Process and the European Higher Education Area.

As an institution dedicated to upholding the highest standards in higher education, the EUL diligently undergoes rigorous evaluations and accreditation processes through esteemed bodies such as the Higher Education Planning, Evaluation, Accreditation, and Coordination Council (YÖDAK), responsible for monitoring the standards and quality of higher education in North Cyprus, as well as the Higher Education Council of Türkiye (YÖK). Since its inception, the university has continuously sought accreditation from various reputable international organisations. Additionally, in compliance with the regulations of the Ministry of Education in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC), the EUL is subject to general supervision. EUL is a leading educational institution in North Cyprus, with above 12000 students from more than 77 countries across five continents. EUL students receive internationally recognized education, along with the knowledge, expertise, and life skills needed to build successful careers. The programs at EUL are designed to produce highly qualified professionals. Furthermore, EUL produces innovative research and contributes to the growing needs of society. With this aim, the EUL has educated over 25,000 graduates from various countries with diverse cultural backgrounds since its establishment.

### **Vision, Mission and Values**

The EUL's vision is "to be an internationally prominent University that contributes to the development of its community and the world by embracing its unique culture and fostering its competitive spirit; and has an intercultural student body and graduates who effectively utilize science and technology, respect human rights, adhere to ethical values, and excel in the international career arenas."

The aim of the EUL, as articulated in its mission statement, is “to enhance the professional knowledge and skills of students, preparing them to become a productive and creative generation that will possess the ability to critically evaluate, question, analyze, synthesize, and effectively access information while maintaining a high level of awareness. EUL aims to be an autonomous university that offers up-to-date, student-centred, high-quality education at international standards, produces science and technology, serves as a model with its multicultural diversity, and is open to change and development.”

The EUL shares the core values of reliability, quality, academic freedom, ethics, national and international collaboration, honesty, social responsibility, transparency, accountability, constructive competition, environmental sensitivity, innovativeness, sustainability, and predictability. The University collaborates closely with its students and is committed to upholding academic freedom, institutional autonomy, good governance, social responsibility, and equality of opportunity.

## **Strategic Objectives**

The Strategic Plan 2023-2027 of EUL outlines the university's goals and priorities, providing a clear roadmap for achieving its long-term objectives and fulfilling its mission. The vision, mission, and values of EUL are integrated into this strategic plan, which delineates priorities, allocates resources efficiently, and establishes measurable objectives that guide decision-making at all levels of the institution.

The strategic plan reflects the university’s core mission, vision, and values, and serves as a foundation for its direction and priorities. It emphasizes the student experience, resource allocation, the contributions of the academic community, and the overall University’s impact on both the nation and the region.

As a dynamic institution of higher education, EUL has consistently responded proactively to the needs and demands of both the nation and the region. Two years ago the entire university community, including students, staff, and external stakeholders, was invited to participate actively in the strategic planning process. This engagement took place through strategy conferences, working groups, and surveys. The strategic plan ensures that all stakeholders (students, faculty, staff, alumni, and partners) are aligned with EUL’s vision, mission, and values and strengthens internal cohesion and promotes a shared sense of purpose, which is crucial for

institutional success. By engaging all stakeholders in the overall planning process, EUL fosters a culture of continuous improvement.

The strategic plan has 6 core components or pillars as summarised below:

- **Enhancing Academic Excellence:** Increase the quality and diversity of academic programs;
- **Research and Innovation:** Foster research and address global challenges;
- **Student Success and Retention:** Improve graduation and retention rates, and increase the employability of students;
- **Community Engagement and Impact:** Strengthen the ties with local and global communities ;
- **Governance:** Create a system for sustainable shared governance based on trust and continuous improvement;
- **Institutional Sustainability:** Improve financial health and diversify funding sources, also enhance resource allocation.

## **2 Student Profile and Demographics**

EUL has 12,091 students in the 2024–2025 Academic Year. In terms of study level distribution, 66.30% of the total student population was registered in degree programmes, encompassing both undergraduate and graduate studies. Within this degree-level cohort, 557 students enrolled in graduate programmes, indicates a steady postgraduate presence.

### **Students Demographic Distribution**

The University hosts a highly diverse student population, with current students from 77 different countries, reflecting its strong international orientation and global reach. The number of international students is 7154, creating a multicultural academic environment that enriches teaching, learning, and campus life.

It is worth noting that 64.71% of the student population consists of first-generation learners, highlighting the University’s significant role in widening participation in higher education.

## Student Gender Distribution

The University is committed to promoting gender equality and equal access to higher education across all levels of study. In line with this commitment, scholarship schemes are designed and implemented with sensitivity to gender balance, aiming to encourage the participation of female students and to ensure equitable opportunities in access, continuation, and academic success. These measures reflect the University's broader institutional policies on inclusiveness, fairness, and social responsibility, and contribute to creating a balanced and supportive learning environment for all students.

	Male (%)	Female (%)	Other (%)
2024-2025 Academic Year	50.14	49.86	-

## Student Progression and Completion Indicators

During the 2024–2025 Academic Year, student retention and completion rates were systematically monitored as key indicators of institutional effectiveness and student success. Retention rate being above 90% reflects the University's ability to support students in continuing their studies from one academic year to the next, while completion rates demonstrate the extent to which students successfully fulfil programme requirements within the expected timeframe. The analysis of these indicators is based on verified data obtained from the Student Information System and is evaluated at both programme and institutional levels. The findings provide critical evidence for assessing academic support mechanisms, learning and teaching effectiveness, and student engagement practices, and they serve as an essential input for continuous improvement actions aimed at enhancing student persistence and timely graduation.

### 3 Quality Assurance and Continuous Improvement

The University delivers a broad academic portfolio comprising 47 undergraduate programmes and 49 graduate programmes, reflecting both disciplinary diversity and institutional growth. In this context, the University systematically carries out quality assurance and continuous improvement processes to ensure that all programmes meet defined academic standards and

respond effectively to stakeholder expectations. These processes include regular programme monitoring, student and graduate feedback mechanisms (surveys and meetings), periodic reviews, and data-driven evaluations, all of which support the ongoing enhancement of programme design, delivery, and learning outcomes.

Total of 497 graduates participated in the survey conducted by the Alumni Affairs Centre in 2025, targeting graduates from the most recent 7–11 months. The results indicate that approximately 63% of the respondents are currently employed, 23% are continuing their postgraduate education, and 11% are fulfilling compulsory obligations such as military service.

As of the 2024-2025 academic year, respected international accreditation bodies have accredited 32 of EUL’s programs. Additionally, EUL is a member of several prestigious international organizations and is a signatory to the *Magna Charta Universitatum 2020*. Besides the accreditations, memberships, and collaborations listed above, according to the QS Stars University 2022 evaluation results announced by the UK-based QS organization, which has an international reputation for world university rankings, EUL has taken 5 stars (full score) from all of the 8 different parameters used by QS, further solidifying its international prestige. The university earned the highest score in the following categories: ‘Teaching’, ‘Employability’, ‘Internationalization’, ‘Academic Development’, ‘Facilities’, ‘Social Responsibility’, ‘Specialist Criteria: Engineering -Electrical & Electronic’, and ‘Inclusiveness’, marking a significant achievement. Accredited EUL programmes by International Accreditation bodies;

<b>Program</b>	<b>International Accreditation Agency</b>	<b>Duration</b>
<b>Finance and Banking</b>	AHPGS (Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences)	2021-2026
<b>Economy</b>	AHPGS (Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences)	2021-2026
<b>Political Science &amp; Public Administration</b>	AHPGS (Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences)	2021-2026
<b>Health Management</b>	AHPGS (Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences)	2021-2026
<b>Pharmacy</b>	AHPGS (Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences)	2023-2028
<b>Nursing</b>	AHPGS (Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences)	2023-2028
<b>Tourism Management</b>	AHPGS (Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences)	2023-2028
<b>Physiotherapy &amp; Rehabilitation</b>	AHPGS (Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences)	2023-2028
<b>Psychology</b>	AHPGS (Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences)	2023-2028

<b>Nutrition &amp; Dietetics</b>	AHPGS (Accreditation Agency in Health and Social Sciences)	2023-2028
<b>Architecture</b>	AQAS (Agency for Quality Assurance through Accreditation of Study Programmes)	2023-2029
<b>Interior Architecture</b>	AQAS (Agency for Quality Assurance through Accreditation of Study Programmes)	2023-2029
<b>Horticulture</b>	AQAS (Agency for Quality Assurance through Accreditation of Study Programmes)	2023-2029
<b>New Media and Communication</b>	AQAS (Agency for Quality Assurance through Accreditation of Study Programmes)	2024-2030
<b>Electronics and Communication</b>	ASIIN (The Accreditation Agency for Study Programmes of Engineering, Informatics, Natural Sciences and Mathematics)	2017-2029
<b>Software Engineering</b>	ASIIN (The Accreditation Agency for Study Programmes of Engineering, Informatics, Natural Sciences and Mathematics)	2017-2029
<b>Management Information Systems</b>	ASIIN (The Accreditation Agency for Study Programmes of Engineering, Informatics, Natural Sciences and Mathematics)	2017-2029
<b>ELTE</b>	EPDAD (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Faculties of Education Programmes)	2021-2026
<b>Guidance &amp; Psychological Counseling</b>	EPDAD (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Faculties of Education Programmes)	2021-2026
<b>Classroom Teaching</b>	EPDAD (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Faculties of Education Programmes)	2021-2026
<b>Special Education Teaching</b>	EPDAD (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Faculties of Education Programmes)	2020-2028
<b>Primary School Mathematics Teaching</b>	EPDAD (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Faculties of Education Programmes)	2023-2026
<b>Turkish Language Teaching</b>	EPDAD (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Faculties of Education Programmes)	2023-2026
<b>Pre-school Teaching</b>	EPDAD (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Faculties of Education Programmes)	2023-2026
<b>Psychology</b>	FEDEK (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Faculties of Science, Arts, Science-Arts, Languages, and History-Geography Programs)	2023-2028
<b>Business Administration</b>	FIBAA (Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation)	2017-2029
<b>International Relations</b>	FIBAA (Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation)	2017-2029
<b>Computer Engineering</b>	MÜDEK (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Engineering Programs)	2016-2027
<b>Electronics and Electronics</b>	MÜDEK (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Engineering Programs)	2016-2027
<b>Civil Engineering</b>	MÜDEK (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Engineering Programs)	2016-2027
<b>Physiotherapy &amp; Rehabilitation (TR)</b>	SABAK (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Health Sciences Educational Programs)	2023-2028

<b>Nutrition &amp; Dietetics (TR)</b>	SABAK (Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Health Sciences Educational Programs)	2024-2026
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EUL offers an education that equips students with comprehensive knowledge and practical skills, ensuring that its graduates are highly qualified and competitive globally. By generating new knowledge and practical solutions, EUL aims to support informed policymaking, drive technological innovation, and enrich the cultural fabric of our community. EUL serves as a hub for academic excellence and regional progress, reinforcing its role as a key contributor to long-term development goals.

The members of the EUL Quality Assurance Committee are listed below. The Committee is responsible for coordinating, monitoring, and supporting the implementation of the University's quality assurance and continuous improvement processes in line with institutional policies and external quality standards.

No.	Name-Surname	Title	Status
1	Ebru OĞURLU	Prof. Dr.	Chairperson
2	Lerzan ARAS	Prof. Dr.	Member
3	Ertuğ AYDIN	Prof. Dr.	Member
4	Elif Asude TUNCA	Prof. Dr.	Member
5	Meral DEMİRALP	Prof. Dr.	Member
6	Vedat ÇAĞANAĞA	Assist. Prof. Dr.	Member
7	Ervanur Tuana KAYA	Ms.	Student Member

Furthermore, EUL attaches great importance to research and innovation, as evidenced by the steady annual increase in its scientific publications according to Scopus data. EUL publication statistics according to Scopus Data are given as:

Year	Number of Publications (Scopus indexed)
2024	306
2025	451

Furthermore, EUL strives to contribute to the betterment of society. The EUL aims to play a pioneering role in the country's economic, social, and cultural development, prioritizing excellence in academic freedom and education. Leveraging our state-of-the-art infrastructure and technological resources, EUL stands as a preeminent educational institution in North Cyprus.

#### **4 EUL Student Council, Student Societies and Clubs**

The contribution of students is undeniably essential for the advancement of both the University and society as a whole. Student representation on university boards is required for fostering inclusive, transparent, and responsive governance. As primary stakeholders in the academic environment, students offer unique perspectives on institutional policies, campus life, and the quality of education. Their presence ensures that decisions reflect the needs, concerns, and aspirations of the student body, promoting a more balanced and democratic decision-making process. Furthermore, it provides students with valuable leadership experience and a practical understanding of institutional operations, preparing them for active roles in professional life.

Moreover, EUL has a Student Council that is based on the belief that life at the EUL campus encompasses much more than mere academics; hence, students should be encouraged to express their views on relevant issues. The primary aim of a student council at EUL is to represent the interests and concerns of the student body. The EUL Student Council serves as an ideal platform for students to engage in active participation. Furthermore, the University boasts a diverse array of student clubs and societies, fostering a vibrant campus community. The University firmly asserts that these clubs contribute to the holistic personal development of EUL students.

#### **5 Global Partners**

EUL acknowledges the importance of global collaboration and networking and is a member of several prestigious organizations, including the International Association of Universities (IAU), the Federation of the Universities of the Islamic World (FUIW), ASIIN Global University Network of Excellence (AGUNE), Magna Charta Observatory (MCO) and the American Council on Education (ACE), Union of Turkic Universities (TURKUNIB), operating under the Organization of Turkic States (OTS)

Moreover, EUL has actively engaged in international collaborative partnerships and established memoranda of understanding with various universities and partner institutions worldwide.

#### **Magna Charta Universitatum 2020**

Signing the *Magna Charta Universitatum 2020*, an updated version of the original 1988 Magna Charta, symbolizes EUL's unwavering commitment to the core principles of academic freedom,

institutional autonomy in response to the evolving global landscape of higher education. By embracing the values enshrined in the *Magna Charta Universitatum 2020*, EUL reaffirms its role not only as a centre of learning but also as a steward of democratic ideals and ethical governance. The *Magna Charta Universitatum 2020* supports the creation of an academic community grounded in freedom, integrity, and respect for individual rights on the EUL campus.

## 6 Governance, Management and Academic Infrastructure

The EUL was established by the Cyprus Science Foundation, an affiliated foundation operating under the Cyprus Foundation Administration. The University's highest decision-making body is the Board of Trustees (BoT). The BoT of the Cyprus Science Foundation comprises nine Board members. Seven of the board members are nominated by the foundation for three years, while the remaining two members are permanent. The BoT of EUL serves as the institution's highest governing body, responsible for overseeing its strategic direction, financial integrity, and overall mission. The members of BoT in 2024-2025 Academic Year are listed below:

No.	Name – Surname	Position	Date of Appointment
1	Enver ÖZTÜRK	Chairperson	2021
2	Mehmet ZAFER	Member	2019
3	Gökhan SARAÇ	Member	2021
4	Timuçin PİRGALIOĞLU	Member	2019
5	Hüseyin ŞENER	Member	2021
6	Tamer KARAKAŞLI	Member	2021
7	Nihat ÇAKAN	Member	2005
8	Hasan BALMAN	Member	1989

The University administration comprises several key entities, including the Office of the Rector, the Senate, the University Executive Board, Deans/Directors, the Faculty Academic Boards and the Faculty Administrative Boards, Department Chairs, and Department Boards.

The University Senate serves as the primary deliberative body, responsible for shaping university-wide policies and evaluating potential structural changes. The University Executive Board is responsible for plans and programmes related to the University's activities and ensuring the implementation of ongoing plans and programmes, deciding on matters related to the use of physical facilities at the University, as well as issues related to the environment, accommodation,

student services, and other support services. The list of Senate members in 2024-2025 Academic Year is listed below:

NO	Name	Title	Position
1	Mehmet Ali YÜKSELEN	Prof. Dr.	Rector
2	Carolina SMOCHINA	Prof. Dr.	Vice Rector
3	Hüseyin ADEMGİL	Prof. Dr.	Vice Rector
4	Ebru OĞURLU	Prof. Dr.	Vice Rector
5	Lerzan ARAS	Prof. Dr.	Dean
6	Ali DAYIOĞLU	Prof. Dr.	Dean
7	Zihniye OKRAY	Prof. Dr.	Dean
8	Elif Asude TUNCA	Prof. Dr.	Dean
9	Ertuğ AYDIN	Prof. Dr.	Dean
10	Serpil ÜNYAYAR	Prof. Dr.	Dean
11	Mehmet Atilla AŞKIN	Prof. Dr.	Dean
12	Hüseyin OĞUZ	Prof. Dr.	Dean
13	Nuri ERİŞGİN	Prof. Dr.	Dean
14	Şermin TETİK	Prof. Dr.	Dean
15	Seyide Rümeysa DEMIRDAMAR	Prof. Dr.	Dean
16	Pervin İMIRZALIOĞLU	Prof. Dr.	Dean
17	İbrahim KAHRAMANOĞLU	Assoc. Prof. Dr.	Director
18	Meral DEMIRALP	Prof. Dr.	Director
19	Ersin ÇAĞLAR	Assist. Prof. Dr.	Director
20	Salih KARANFIL	Assist. Prof. Dr.	Director
21	Oğuz SERİN	Prof. Dr.	Director
22	Mehmedali EGEMEN	Assist. Prof. Dr.	Director
23	Besim ÖZYEL	Assist. Prof. Dr.	Director
24	Sibel ERSEL	Assoc. Prof. Dr.	Director
25	Hüseyin ADEMGİL	Prof. Dr.	Representative
26	Ahmet GÜNEYLI	Prof. Dr.	Representative
27	Esra Aydın KILIÇ	Assist. Prof. Dr.	Representative
28	İbrahim KAHRAMANOĞLU	Assoc. Prof. Dr.	Representative
29	Cemaliye Sunalp GÜRÇINAR	Assist. Prof. Dr.	Representative
30	Carolina SMOCHINA	Prof. Dr.	Representative
31	Sultan OKUMUŞOĞLU	Assoc. Prof. Dr.	Representative
32	Aydın MERİÇ	Assist. Prof. Dr.	Representative
33	Cumhur RÜZGARESEN	Prof. Dr.	Representative
34	Sami ÖZGEY	Assist. Prof. Dr.	Representative
35	Faika BAŞOĞLU	Assist. Prof. Dr.	Representative
36	Ervanur Tuana Kaya	Ms.	Student Representative

The Senate and the Executive Board are supported in their mission by a number of committees, each entrusted with specific responsibilities that are essential to the effective governance and

administration of the University. These committees provide structured mechanisms for consultation, oversight, and informed decision-making, ensuring that academic standards, administrative processes, and strategic priorities are carefully examined and upheld.

## 7 Academic Units and Teaching Staff

As of the 2024–2025 Academic Year, the University carries out its education and training activities through 12 Faculties, 4 Schools, 3 Vocational Schools, and 1 Institute. The relevant academic units are presented in a list below.

No.	Unit Type	Academic Unit Name
1	Faculty	Faculty of Architecture
2	Faculty	Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences
3	Faculty	Faculty of Arts and Sciences
4	Faculty	Faculty of Communication Sciences
5	Faculty	Faculty of Engineering
6	Faculty	Faculty of Pharmacy
7	Faculty	Faculty of Medicine
8	Faculty	Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Technologies
9	Faculty	Dr. Fazıl Küçük Faculty of Education
10	Faculty	Faculty of Law
11	Faculty	Faculty of Health Sciences
12	Faculty	Faculty of Dentistry
13	School	School of Nursing
14	School	School of Applied Sciences
15	School	School of Physical Education and Sports
16	School	School of Tourism and Hotel Management
17	School	English Preparatory School
18	Vocational School	Vocational School
19	Vocational School	School of Justice
20	Vocational School	Health Services Vocational School
21	Institute	Institute of Graduate Studies and Research

## Academic Staff Profile

The EUL's academic staff profile reflects a diverse and balanced structure in terms of demographic composition, academic titles, and gender distribution. The academic workforce comprises professors, associate professors, assistant professors, lecturers, and research assistants across different faculties and academic units. This diversity in academic ranks supports a dynamic academic environment and ensures the effective delivery of education, research, and

community engagement activities in line with institutional objectives. The total number of academic staff with PhD is 368.

	<b>Domestic</b>	<b>Other (International)</b>
<b>Number of Academic Staff</b>	191	256

The University places strong emphasis on gender equality and inclusiveness within its academic staffing policies. Recruitment, promotion, and professional development processes are implemented in accordance with the principles of equal opportunity and merit. Gender distribution is regularly monitored as part of the internal quality assurance framework to promote balanced representation across academic ranks and disciplines, thereby contributing to a fair, supportive, and sustainable academic working environment. EUL female academic staff rate is 50.34%.

## **Conclusion**

The European University of Lefke has continued to make effective use of its institutional strengths and, with the significant contributions of its young and dynamic academic staff, has achieved a notable advancement in the field of research. In this context, the number of scientific publications has increased substantially, showing a clear and measurable rise compared to the previous academic year.

Enhancing its international visibility, the University has successfully been included in the QS World University Rankings, achieving a recognised position both in the overall rankings and in subject-specific fields. In parallel, social and cultural activities have been sustained without interruption, cooperation agreements with international partner universities have been renewed, and programme accreditations have been successfully completed. In addition, quality assurance activities at the programme level have continued systematically, while further efforts have been under taken to strengthen the institutional framework and governance structure of the University.