International Dimensions in Informatics Education at CTU

Josef Kolář
Faculty of Information Technology
Czech Technical University in Prague

(Background picture – Prague Polytechnic, 1806)
Outline

• Introduction
• CTU going international
• Czech dimension
• Western dimension
• Eastern dimension
• Southern and Far Eastern dimensions
• Conclusions
Introduction

• CTU in Prague
  – 8 faculties + 4 institutes
  – 1550 academic staff (190 P, 330 AP, 920 SA, 36 AS, 245 R)
  – cca 21 700 students
  – 129 study programmes (45 BSc, 9+40 MSc, 25 PhD)
  – 48 programmes in English (13, 1+23, 11)

• Is CTU international (enough)?
  – 1 200 international students in 2005
  – 2 500 – 3 000 in 2010 (12% – 14%)
  – International teachers & researchers ??
CTU going international

• Being international = necessity
  – Internet has no borders
  – Attracts excellent staff and students
  – Preferred partner for cooperation
  – Improves success rate in project competition
  – Positive feedback

• Do we (IT/Informatics/CS at CTU) mean it?
  – Dept. of CS&Eng at FEE since 1964
  – IT students from East, West, South
  – Changes from 1989 on
Czech Dimension

• Speaking “comme tout le monde”
  – Czech/Slovak universities only – after 1945
  – Czech only – after split 1993
  – Splendid (linguistic) isolation

• Do we (IT/Informatics/CS at CTU) mean it?
  – Dept. of CS&Eng at FEE since 1964
  – IT students from East, West, South
  – Before and after 1989 – Computing Curricula
  – 20 years later
  – Informatics vs. Engineering
Western Dimension

• CTU English presentation and teaching
  – US & EU mobility students
  – Senior staff struggle
  – Semi-developed WWW pages
  – Erasmus International Fair
  – Orientation week & ISC “buddies”

• Students coming
  – Mobility, not degree
  – IT courses/subjects are popular
  – Cost effectiveness issues

• Students leaving
Eastern Dimension

• Students coming
  – Slovaks mostly – best legal conditions
  – Former Soviet Union (RU, UA, BY, Asia, …)
  – Degree seeking students
  – Czech degree courses ⇒ no tuition!

• Potential CTU outcome
  – Excellent students
  – Paying (good) students
  – Improved cost effectiveness

• Students leaving
Remaining Dimensions

• Africa/Asia/Pacific
  – Degree students – Nigeria, India, Pakistan, ...
  – Interested in branch establishing – Vietnam, ...
  – Cooperation & mobility agreement - Australia

• Latin America & Caribbean
  – Magalhaes network = 16 EU + 15 LA
  – EMECW project EU Brazil StartUp 2010-2013
  – 170 mobilities of students and staff
  – Establishing EU-EU contacts

• Students leaving
Conclusion

• CTU’s 12% - 14% are not realistic
• FIT could approach 10% in 10 years
• What really matters
  – West: mobility, staff cooperation
  – East: excellence
  – Far East/Africa: cost effectiveness
  – Latin America: excellence, cooperation
• Your opinion & cooperation is welcome
THANK YOU!