

The Romanian Agency for Quality Assurance in Higher Education



External Evaluation Report (REE) for the procedure for obtaining a maintaining accreditation (MAC) of Doctoral Study Domain

Higher Education Institution/Education Provider Organization:	"LUCIAN BLAGA" UNIVERSITY OF SIBIU
Doctoral School:	of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics
Doctoral Domain:	Industrial Engineering
The objective of the external evaluation:	Maintaining accreditation (MAC)

Members of the ARACIS Evaluation Panel

No.	Last Name and First Name	Team role	Signature
1.	NAGÎȚ GHEORGHE	Expert evaluator	
2.	TOPALĂ PAVEL ALEXEI	International Expert	
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I. Introduction

The report refers to the **external evaluation of the field of doctoral studies Industrial Engineering** within IOSUD – "LUCIAN BLAGA" UNIVERSITY OF SIBIU (ULBS).

Type of evaluation:

Evaluation for Maintaining accreditation (MAC) in of the field of doctoral studies Industrial Engineering, within IOSUD of the IOSUD – "LUCIAN BLAGA" UNIVERSITY OF SIBIU, carried out by ARACIS.

Evaluation period: MAY , 20-22 2026

Evaluation team:

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"LUCIAN BLAGA" UNIVERSITY OF SIBIU (ULBS) is a comprehensive university comprising nine faculties (two engineering faculties and seven faculties with various profiles: humanities, sciences, economics, law, medicine, theology, etc.). In the 2025–2026 academic year, ULBS has 14,734 students enrolled, of which 11,403 are undergraduate students (programs in Romanian and foreign languages), 2,873 are master's students (programs in Romanian and foreign languages), and 458 doctoral students in 16 doctoral programs (in Romanian and foreign languages).

ULBS defines its mission as an institution of advanced education and research, dedicated to training highly qualified human resources and generating and disseminating knowledge. The university acts as a vector for the transfer of skills and knowledge to society, with the aim of integrating graduates into the labor market and contributing to the sustainable development of the community.

In the institutional evaluation carried out by ARACIS in 2021, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu obtained the highest rating: "High degree of confidence" and maintained its accreditation for the organization of doctoral programs, in accordance with OME 5498/2021, supplemented by OME 6067/2022 on the organization of doctoral schools.

The management structure of ULBS complies with the legal provisions in force and ensures participatory and transparent management. The management team consists of:

- The university rector;
- 4 vice-rectors, each responsible for specific strategic areas;
- Director of the Council for Doctoral Studies (CSUD).

The ULBS organizational chart includes:

- 9 faculties,
- 24 teaching departments,
- 6 doctoral schools,
- the Center for Distance Learning and Part-Time Education (IDIFR), which is subordinate to the Protectorate for teaching activities.

ULBS joined the FORTHEM Alliance in September 2021, becoming a full member. In July 2022, it was officially recognized as a "European University," a program funded by the European Commission through the European Universities Initiative (EUI).

Doctoral studies are organized by IOSUD-ULBS only within accredited doctoral study programs offered by doctoral schools, in accordance with Ministerial Order No. 5498/2021 regarding the maintenance of accreditation of the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu for the organization of doctoral

study programs. IOSUD activities are organized by CSUD (Council for Doctoral Studies) and are carried out within the Doctoral Schools of the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu.

Following the ARACIS visit regarding the evaluation of IOSUD and doctoral study areas in 2021, a series of recommendations were formulated and an Action Plan was drawn up and adopted by the ULBS Senate. One of these recommendations concerned the reorganisation of the interdisciplinary doctoral school into several doctoral schools in order to manage the doctoral study fields as efficiently as possible, given that 15 doctoral study fields were operating within the same doctoral school. As a result, the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu took the necessary steps to reorganize the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School, so that by Decision No. 1211 of March 31, 2021, of the Senate of the "Lucian Blaga" University of Sibiu, the ULBS Organizational Chart was amended.

Currently, **the Institute for the Organization of Doctoral and Postdoctoral Studies** within ULBS comprises six doctoral schools: *Engineering Sciences and Mathematics, Social Sciences Social, Philology and History, Theatre and Performing Arts, Theology and Medicine*.

The activity of IOSUD is coordinated by CSUD, consisting of 11 members, namely: CSUD Director, 7 PhD supervisors elected by the PhD supervisors and 3 PhD students elected by the PhD students.

The Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics (SDSIM) is coordinated by the Council of the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics (CSDSIM), consisting of four members, namely: the Director of SDSIM, one doctoral supervisor from IOSUD-ULBS, one scientific figure from outside IOSUD-ULBS, and one representative of doctoral students.

The Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics currently comprises five areas of doctoral studies, namely:

1. Computers and Information Technology
2. **Industrial engineering**
3. Mechanical engineering
4. Engineering and management
5. Mathematics

For all these fields, the 2021 external evaluation concluded with a decision to maintaining accreditation. Following the interim visit of the external evaluation team to analyze the progress report prepared in 2024, it resulted that all recommendations were implemented as set out in ARACIS Decision 193/H/07.08.2025.

In the field of Industrial Engineering, in the 2025-2026 academic year, 34 doctoral students are enrolled, corresponding to the 7 doctoral supervisors.

The mission of the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics within IOSUD ULBS (SDSIM-ULBS) is to train researchers and specialists (doctors) capable of working at the highest levels in both scientific research and practical professional activity, ensuring the insertion into the labor market of human resources competent in scientific research and with rich professional experience, accumulated through the awarding of doctoral degrees in all five areas of doctoral studies.

Over the past five years, the CNATDCU General Council has awarded **29 doctoral degrees** in the fundamental fields of Engineering Sciences (28) and Mathematics and Natural Sciences (1) in the five fields of doctoral studies within the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics, and 78 doctoral students are enrolled.

Since 1990, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu has been organizing doctoral programs in six fundamental fields (humanities, engineering, economics, law, medical sciences, and theology) and research, thus continuing a long tradition of higher education in Sibiu. The general framework for the organization and functioning of **the doctoral study program in Industrial Engineering** falls within the general framework for the organization and functioning of SDSIM-ULBS, based on the provisions of *the Regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at ULBS, with subsequent amendments and additions* approved by Senate Decision No. 3409 of 27.06.2024, which stipulates that a doctoral school may include.

The mission of the **Industrial Engineering** doctoral program is to ensure the advanced training of specialists (doctors) in the field of Industrial Engineering, to promote excellence in scientific research, development, innovation, and knowledge transfer to Romanian and international society, ensuring the insertion into the labor market of human resources competent in scientific research and with rich professional experience, accumulated through the awarding of the title and diploma of doctor. Since the last external quality assessment procedure, **the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering** has undergone a series of significant developments, both at the curricular and organizational levels, such as:

- Revision of the curriculum in accordance with new regulations in force, labor market requirements, and following consultation with students, graduates, and employers;
- Updating course descriptions to align with ARACIS standards and international best practices in the field;
- Developing educational infrastructure by equipping laboratories, classrooms, and study spaces with modern equipment;
- Strengthening human resources by attracting doctoral supervisors and members of academic guidance and integrity committees to contribute to the continuous professional development of doctoral students;
- Expanding international collaborations by implementing Erasmus+ agreements, participating in national and international projects, conferences, and research internships within the FORTHEM alliance;
- Increasing the employability of graduates, as confirmed by professional integration studies and feedback from employers.

The field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering is managed by the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics and is usually conducted over a period of 4 years, with a total of 240 ECTS credits, leading to a level 8 university qualification in the EQF/CEC and CNC, through the award of a doctoral degree.

II. Methods used

The methods and tools used in the external evaluation process, before, and during the evaluation visit were the following:

- Analysis of the Internal Evaluation Report of the Industrial Engineering field and its annexes;
- Analysis of the documents in electronic format made available by IOSUD at the request of the evaluation commission;
- Analysis of documents, data and information available on the IOSUD website and the Doctoral School, in electronic format;

During the evaluation activity, a list of the main research equipment available within the Industrial Engineering Domain, as well as their main characteristics, was requested to complete the file. The document was posted on the ARACIS portal.

On-site visit:

- classrooms;
- research laboratories in the field of Industrial Engineering;
- research centers;
- analysis of the documents made available by IOSUD in physical format during the assessment visit;
- Meeting/discussions with the management of the Doctoral School/Schools in which the evaluated field of doctoral studies operates;
- Meeting/discussions with the doctoral supervisors in the field of doctoral program evaluated;
- Meeting/discussions with representatives of various structures of IOSUD/School/
- Doctoral programs in which the field of doctoral studies evaluated operates;
- The Doctoral School Council, the Quality Assurance Department, the Ethics Committee;

The entire team of experts participated in the writing of this Report.

The PhD student evaluator, Ionut – Cosmin NICA completed with hers opinions on several indicators and drafted the Synthesis of the discussions with doctoral students from the doctoral school, which she inserted in the Commission's Report.

III. Judgement on the extent to which the standards and performance indicators are fulfilled

DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity

Criterion A.1. Managerial and administrative structures and processes involving students and other stakeholders

Standard S.A.1.1. Organisational components and institutional processes

The HEI has organisational components in its structure, which function based on adequate competences, responsibilities, processes, and implementation procedures, and ensure an effective management system.

Indicator
I.P.A.1.1.1

For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.

Presentation of the state of facts

The activity of IOSUD-ULBS, including the conduct of doctoral studies in **the field of Industrial Engineering**, is supported by a well-defined management system, regulated by methodologies, regulations, and procedures that are periodically updated. The consistency and efficiency of academic and administrative processes are based on the following documents:

- [Organizational chart of the institution](#) ;
- [ULBS Rules of Procedure](#);
- [Organizational and operational regulations for organizational components](#);
- [Regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies](#);
- [Regulations of the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics](#);
- [Regulations on the election process for management positions and structures](#) ;

Staff structure of the organizational component:

- Doctoral supervisors,
- Academic guidance and integrity committees,
- Doctoral supervisors involved in activities within the program based on advanced university studies,
- [Council of the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics](#)

Analysis of the state of facts

An analysis of these documents shows that they contribute to the creation of a stable and coherent organizational framework that supports the efficient running of doctoral studies. By applying internal methodologies, regulations, and procedures, IOSUD-ULBS can ensure the continuity of academic activities while maintaining the flexibility necessary to adapt them to developments in the educational environment, quality requirements, and changes in the labor market

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.A.1.2. Stakeholder engagement

The HEI proves that it engages the relevant stakeholders in developing methodologies and regulations, as well as implementation procedures.

Indicator I.P.A.1.2.1	The opinions of the faculty and department members, of the subsidiary or extension* and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.
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Presentation of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS attaches particular importance to the opinions expressed by doctoral students, doctoral supervisors, academic guidance and integrity committees, committees for the public defense of doctoral theses, doctors, and other interested parties. These are integrated through formal and informal consultation mechanisms, thus ensuring transparency and the active involvement of all relevant parties. The supporting documents are:

- University Charter;
- ULBS Rules of Procedure (provisions regarding duties/rights/obligations);
- The operating regulations of the Faculty Councils and the University Senate, CA ULBS;
- Regulations governing the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at IOSUD-ULBS;
- Institutional strategy;
- The rector's report;
- Reports of the CSUD director;
- Mission and objectives of the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering (REI, p. 12)

Analysis of the state of facts

At the level of IOSUD-ULBS, the opinions of doctoral students, doctoral supervisors, academic guidance and integrity committees, as well as other stakeholders (employers, socio-economic partners) are integrated into the process of developing and reviewing institutional methodologies, regulations, and procedures to the extent that current regulations allow for their involvement.

Recommendations : There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion A.2. The material resources and optimisation of the use of the material resources

Standard S.A.2.1. Material resources	
The HEI owns adequate movable and immovable assets to enable it to carry out the study programme/domain.	
Indicator I.P.A.2.1.1	The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.

Presentation of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS has the necessary infrastructure for teaching, research, and administrative processes, as well as spaces for services for students, doctoral students, and trainees, ensuring an adequate framework for study, academic life, and social integration. The spaces are adequately equipped, including with access facilities for people with disabilities, and offer optimal conditions for the work of teaching, research, and administrative staff. IOSUD-ULBS's compliance with the indicator requirements is supported by:

- Documents establishing and governing the operation of ULBS;
- ULBS assets. The status of premises used for educational, research, social, sports, and cultural activities;
- Equipment of ULBS premises;
- Learning resources (library, book collection, access to databases, appropriate software).

During the on-site visit, nearly all the previously mentioned spaces were visited, with focus on the research facilities and spaces allocated to the doctoral students. The evaluated institution has made consistent efforts to enhance the material conditions necessary for PhD student academic success.

* The faculty, department, subsidiary, extension - hereinafter "organisational components"

These efforts are evidenced by the rehabilitation and modernization of key educational spaces, including laboratories, lecture halls, and seminar rooms. These upgrades contribute directly to the quality of the academic environment and support effective teaching and learning processes. However, one of the aspects that were observed during the on-site visit was the limited access to most of the buildings and facilities for individuals with disabilities and/or functional diversity, an aspect that the evaluated institution has to address in the future.

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS has adequate facilities for teaching, research, administrative, and student services, including for people with disabilities. These are well equipped (modern classrooms, laboratories, libraries, educational software), contributing to an environment conducive to study and social integration. Supporting documents include asset records, technical reports, equipment records, and internal regulations. Activities within the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering are carried out in the premises of the Faculty of Engineering and in the five research centers mentioned above. They have modern research infrastructure, ensuring unlimited access to the most well-known databases, as well as state-of-the-art research equipment: <https://eertis.eu/errf-2300-000p-0520>, <https://eertis.eu/erio-2300-000v-4225>, <https://eertis.eu/errf-2300-000z-0486>, <https://eertis.eu/errf-2300-000l-0513>, <https://eertis.eu/errf-2300-000m-0480>.

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.A.2.2. Management of material resources

The organisational components manage the movable and immovable assets used for the evaluated study programme/domain in an optimal, sustainable manner.

Indicator I.P.A.2.2.1	The movable and immovable assets are properly maintained to ensure optimal conditions for studying, living and research, as well as for work.
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Presentation of the state of facts

The Faculty of Engineering, which also runs activities in the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering, manages the immovable and movable assets used in the implementation of the advanced university studies program and the individual research program in an appropriate manner. These are constantly maintained to ensure optimal conditions for study, research, work, and university life, thus contributing to the smooth functioning of academic processes and the creation of a safe and attractive educational environment. Investment planning, financial resource allocation, and infrastructure use regulation are supported by relevant institutional documents:

- ULBS financial statements (balance sheet, annual income and expenditure budget);
- Institutional development strategy (investment plan)

Analysis of the state of facts

The Doctoral School of Engineering and Mathematics, through the Faculty of Engineering within ULBS, ensures the efficient and consistent management of the immovable and movable assets necessary for teaching, research, and administrative activities. The premises and equipment are properly maintained through dedicated budget allocations and regular repairs, cleaning, and modernization. The infrastructure is safe, functional, and adapted to current research requirements, contributing to an attractive and secure academic environment

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion A.3. Adequate human resources and transparent staff recruiting procedures developed according to the law

Standard S.A.3.1. Human resources

The HEI has the required human resources to organise and deliver the evaluated study programme/domain.

Indicator I.P.A.3.1.1	The human resources of the organisational component are suitable to perform the activities pertaining to the evaluated study programme/domain. The teaching staff
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has the required qualifications and professional competences to teach the subject matters assigned to them in the job list.

Presentation of the state of facts

All staff involved in teaching and research activities within the doctoral study program (Industrial Engineering) are employed in accordance with recruitment criteria established at the institutional level, in compliance with legal provisions. The status of doctoral supervisor within IOSUD ULBS can be obtained after completing the habilitation procedures and obtaining the habilitation certificate. IOSUD-ULBS affiliation, as provided for in the Regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies and in the Regulations of the Doctoral School of Engineering and Mathematics. The habilitation process for obtaining the right to supervise doctoral students is carried out in accordance with the regulations in force and based on the IOSUD-ULBS Methodology for granting the habilitation certificate. The teaching process carried out within the program based on advanced university studies is ensured by doctoral supervisors affiliated with IOSUD-ULBS who meet the minimum and mandatory standards for granting the habilitation certificate. The 7 doctoral supervisors in the field of Industrial Engineering (**Breaz Radu-Eugen, Chicea Dan Drobota Dan, Oancea Simona, Oleksik Valentin-Ştefan, Racz Sever-Gabriel and Tita Ovidiu**) obtained the right to supervise doctoral studies between 2006 and 2017. Each of them meets the CNADTCU criteria for habilitation. The files demonstrating compliance with the minimum standards required and mandatory for the award of the accreditation certificate in the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering are presented in **Annex I.P.A.3.1.1. FV_Accreditation standards_Industrial Engineering**.

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS provides the human resources necessary to carry out activities within the the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering and continuously supports the university's holders in order to obtain the habilitation certificate and affiliation to the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics, in the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering.

Recommendations : Increasing the number of PhD supervisors.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P.A.3.1.2	The HEI ensures professional and personal development for its staff.
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Presentation of the state of facts

ULBS actively promotes the professional and personal development of doctoral supervisors by integrating specific strategic objectives into the ULBS Multi-Annual Strategic Plan for Institutional Development, which includes clear guidelines on continuous improvement and the internationalization of academic activities.

Analysis of the state of facts

ULBS supports the professional development of its staff through strategic objectives included in the Institutional Development Plan, aiming at continuous improvement and internationalization

Recommendations Expansion of training programs for PhD supervisors.

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.A.3.2. Recruitment procedures

Teaching staff recruitment procedures compliant with the provisions of the law.

Indicator I.P.A.3.2.1	Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law, and are established and carried out transparently.
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Presentation of the state of facts

The recruitment procedures for co-opting new doctoral supervisors fully comply with the applicable legal framework and are designed and implemented in a clear, transparent, and fair manner. These procedures are regulated by:

- OM 3998/2024 on the Methodology for granting the habilitation certificate;
- Methodology for granting the habilitation certificate at ULBS;
- The regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies;
- Regulations of the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics;

- Framework methodology for filling vacant teaching and research positions in higher education through competition;
- Methodology for conducting competitions for filling teaching positions.

Analysis of the state of facts

Recruitment is carried out publicly, in accordance with the criteria of legality, fairness, and professional competence. Applications are evaluated in accordance with CNATDCU and institutional standards.

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion A.4. Digitalisation of institutional processes

Standard S.A.4.1. Digital transformation

The digital transformation process in the organisational component seeks to achieve administrative simplification and improve the quality of the services provided to the members of its own community, as well as to third parties.

Indicator I.P.A.4.1.1	The organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, to improve access and provide good quality services for the members of its own community and the indirect beneficiaries of education.
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Presentation of the state of facts

The efficient information management within IOSUD-ULBS are supported by the use of the following IT tools Licenses for Internet and Intranet information and communication systems involving members of, the university community, including students, administrative staff, and other beneficiaries and partners of the university (Services and Documents), Licenses for student record management, payroll, accounting, and asset management applications, Online forms for collecting information and feedback from doctoral supervisors and doctoral students

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS and the Doctoral School of Engineering and Mathematics use modern IT tools to streamline administrative and academic processes, thus contributing to improving the quality of services provided to members of the university community and indirect beneficiaries.

Recommendations: To continue to expand digitization by integrating advanced IT solutions, interconnecting existing platforms, and automating processes.

The indicator is: fulfilled

DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy

Criterion B.1. Content and relevance of study programmes

Standard S.B.1.1. Content of study programme/s*

The study programme is based on a curriculum designed so that students can acquire the expected learning outcomes.

Indicator I.P.B.1.1.1	The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes, and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.
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Presentation of the state of facts

The doctoral program in Industrial Engineering complies with the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) in accordance with Order No. 6.768/2023 of December 12, 2023, approving the Methodology for awarding transferable credits in lifelong learning, the ULBS doctoral student guide,

* The term "programmes" concerns the external quality evaluation for the study programmes contained in a master/doctoral domain. The term "programme" shall be used hereinafter.

and the regulations on the professional activity of ULBS students, based on the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS), integrating teaching, learning, practical training, research, and assessment activities. Compliance with the requirements of the Industrial Engineering doctoral program is supported by relevant documents, such as The curriculum and Subject descriptions with expected learning outcomes. The doctoral program has two components **a training program** based on advanced university studies, with **30** credits and 900 hours **and individual scientific research program**, with **210** credits and 6300 hours, based on research activities and dissemination of research results, as well as on the development and completion of the doctoral thesis.

Analysis of the state of facts

The field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering is based on a coherent curriculum, focused on developing field-specific skills and achieving the expected learning outcomes, in accordance with national and European standards. The Industrial Engineering doctoral program is structured around a coherent curriculum based on expected learning outcomes and the ECTS system, integrating teaching, practical training, research, and assessment activities in accordance with national and European standards

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.2. Alignment of the curriculum with the qualification

Standard S.B.2.1. Alignment with the qualification level and the intended competences

In the curriculum design and development process, the organisational component seeks to ensure the qualification level, as well as correlation with the envisaged occupations.

Indicator
I.P.B.2.1.2

The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competences required by those occupations, according to the occupational standards and/or the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO).

Presentation of the state of facts

The doctoral study program in Industrial Engineering is designed to ensure the comprehensive training of future graduates of bachelor's and master's programs. The program is planned and organized in relation to the expected learning outcomes. The academic progress and success of the PhD student are measured by the extent to which these learning outcomes are achieved, evaluated through formative and summative methods such as progress reports, applied activities, and other assessment forms suited to each subject. The curriculum is structured to ensure alignment with Level 8 of the National Qualifications Framework (CNC) and the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), developing advanced research skills, critical analysis, and the generation of scientific knowledge in Industrial Engineering. The purpose of doctoral studies is to develop human resources competent in scientific research, capable of entering the highly skilled labor market. They consist of training, through research, for research and development and innovation and constitute professional research experience, completed, after defending the doctoral thesis, by awarding the title of doctor. Possible occupations according to the ESCO Code 2 classification and more restricted ISCO groups are: 21 - Science and engineering specialists

22 - Health professionals

23 - Education specialists

24 - Administrative and commercial specialists

25 - Information and communications technology specialists

26 - Legal, social, and cultural specialists

Analysis of the state of facts

The Industrial Engineering doctoral field is designed in accordance with the National Qualifications Framework (CNC), the National Register of Qualifications in Higher Education (RNCIS), the European Qualifications Framework (EQF), and the descriptors provided by the ESCO portal, as well as with the specific standards applicable to the doctoral field.

Recommendations There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.3. Student-centred learning, teaching and evaluation

Standard S.B.3.1 Principles

The organisational component implements the principles of student-centred learning.

Indicator I.P.B.3.1.1	The organisational component ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.
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Presentation of the state of facts

The curricula, course descriptions, and individual research programs within the doctoral program in Industrial Engineering reflect active teaching, learning, and assessment methods tailored to the needs and individual pace of development of doctoral students. On the other hand, it includes, in particular, a series of activities aimed at developing research skills and capitalizing on the results obtained. The implementation of these principles is supported by:

- The ULBS Charter;
- The ULBS Student Rights and Obligations Code;
- The ULBS Doctoral Student Guide;
- The vision, mission, values, and strategic objectives of ULBS;
- The ULBS Strategic Plan 2024-2029;
- ULBS Strategy for 2025-2034;

Student-centered learning is reflected from the moment of admission to doctoral studies, which is carried out on research topics. During the period under evaluation, a number of **6 doctoral students**, from the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering, **benefited from scholarships and research internships within a POCU project.**

Analysis of the state of facts

The principles of student-centered learning are applied through an integrated curricular approach that emphasizes autonomy in learning, as well as the personal and professional development of PhD students. The educational process is tailored to individual student needs.

Recommendations There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P. B.3.1.2	The organisational component ensures opportunities for students to participate in academic mobility programmes organised in person and/or virtually.
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Presentation of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS, through the Doctoral School of Engineering and Mathematics, actively supports, including financially, the participation of doctoral students in international academic mobility programs, in accordance with the principles of student-centered learning, namely: international conferences, research internships, summer schools, training courses. These activities, which are also credited in the curriculum, are carried out in accordance with internal regulations, methodologies, and clear procedures for the organization and implementation of mobility:

- Methodology for approving mobility grants for ULBS doctoral students from IOSUD-ULBS funds;
- Internal regulations regarding academic and opportunities for international exchanges;
- ULBS academic mobility plans and international cooperation agreements. Doctoral students are also offered other real and diverse opportunities to participate in academic mobility, both in person and virtually, through Erasmus+ programs and other international partnerships (FORTHEM, FULBRIGHT, etc.). Access to mobility is supported by informative guides, academic counseling, and administrative Support Internal procedures and methodologies for organizing and conducting academic mobility and Support documents for students and guides on mobility opportunities. During the period under evaluation, 29 grants were awarded to doctoral students from the field of Industrial Engineering for participation in conferences, publication of scientific papers, acquisition of materials, or research-documentation internships

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS, through the Doctoral School of Engineering and Mathematics, actively supports, including financially, the participation of doctoral students in international academic mobility programs,

in accordance with the principles of student-centered learning. IOSUD-ULBS provides financial support to doctoral students, including for the publication of articles in WOS-listed journals, on the one hand, and awards/rewards for achieving these results, on the other

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.B.3.2. Fairness

The organisational component provides fair opportunities for students.

Indicator I.P.B.3.2.1	The organisational component provides fair opportunities for students, in line with their potential and aspirations, taking into account the diversity of learning styles and abilities
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Presentation of the state of facts

Institutional equity and inclusion policies are implemented through:

- Strategies/methodologies/tools for ensuring equity, incentives, educational support services;
 - Institutional policy on equitable access and diversity in education;
 - Gender equality plan;
 - Regulations on the organization and functioning of the Integrated Student Services Center – SmarHub;
 - ULBS Charter;
 - Code of ethics and academic conduct.
 - Internal regulations on curricular adaptations and teaching strategies for students with special needs or diverse learning styles;
 - Student support programs (tutors, educational advisors, personalized learning sessions).
- The implementation and impact of these measures are documented and reflected through:
- Reports on student participation in educational programs, including personalized support measures

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS ensures equal opportunities for all students, including doctoral students, in line with their potential and aspirations, taking into account the diversity of learning styles and abilities

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.4. Accessibility and efficiency of the resources and support services, adequate for learning

Standard S.B.4.1. Access to resources and services

The organisational component provides access to adequate resources and support services, according to the needs of the students.

Indicator I.P.B.4.1.1	The organisational component provides students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, with access to resources and services designed to support the learning process, adequate for the individual learning needs, the study domain, the study cycle, and the form of organisation of the study programme.
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Presentation of the state of facts

Institutional policy on accessibility and support for students with special educational needs/disabilities:

- Regulations governing the organization and operation of the Integrated Student Services Center – SmarHub.
- ULBS Charter.
- Code of Ethics and Academic Conduct.
- Strategies/methodologies/tools for ensuring equity and inclusion,
- Provisions in the Student Regulations regarding the provision of resources and support services,
- Internal procedures for adapting the curriculum and educational activities for students with disabilities,
- Reports and documents on measures for physical and digital accessibility of the campus and educational resources:

• Services

• Documents

• ULBS Digital Transformation Strategy 2022-2027

- Support programs and services offered to students with disabilities (counseling, adaptations of educational materials, technological assistance, specialized tutors)

- Statistical data on the number and type of students with special educational needs and use of support services

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS ensures access for all students, including those with special educational needs or disabilities, to resources and support services tailored to individual learning needs, specific to the field, cycle, and form of organization of the study program.

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.5. Learning outcomes

Standard S.B.5.1. Definition and evaluation

Learning outcomes are adequately defined and evaluated.

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.1	Learning outcomes are adequately described, and they support understanding of the students' and teachers' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.
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Presentation of the state of facts

The learning outcomes are consistent with level 8 of the CNC and are explicitly described in the following documents:

- Subject files, which contain a detailed description of the learning outcomes;

- Curricula;

- The IOSUD-ULBS doctoral student guide;

The process of defining and updating learning outcomes is regulated at ULBS level through internal documents and mechanisms that ensure permanent alignment with developments in the academic and professional fields:

- Internal regulations on the definition and assessment of learning outcomes;

- Internal procedures for reviewing and updating learning outcomes, in line with educational developments and labor market requirements.

Analysis of the state of facts

Within the Industrial Engineering doctoral program, learning outcomes are clearly and coherently formulated in accordance with national and European standards for higher-level qualifications, structured around specific and transversal competencies and expected learning outcomes. These outcomes are integrated into the curriculum structure, course descriptions, and curricular documents thereby ensuring a shared understanding of the learning objectives by both doctoral students and the academic staff involved in the training process

Recommendations There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P.B.5.1.2	Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.
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Presentation of the state of facts

In the Industrial Engineering doctoral program, the assessment of learning outcome achievement is regulated and carried out in accordance with the systematically and rigorously, both during the semesters and at the end of the studies, in accordance with: The regulations on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies at IOSUD-ULBS, The operational procedure for the completion of doctoral studies at IOSUD-ULBS, Doctoral study contracts, and Curricula indicating the forms of assessment of learning outcomes during studies and upon their completion. These documents

establish the general structure of the assessment process, the guiding principles, and the methods used to verify the competencies specific to this cycle of studies

The training program based on advanced university studies takes place during the first semester of the first year. For each subject attended at Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu as part of the advanced university studies training program, the doctoral student receives a certificate of attendance, issued by the course instructor and countersigned by the doctoral supervisor. The doctoral student must accumulate a total of 30 ECTS credits within the program based on advanced university studies. *The individual scientific research program* is carried out in accordance with the individual doctoral program, which is attached to the study contract. In years II, III, and IV, the doctoral student submits at least 3 scientific research reports. *Doctoral studies are completed by defending the doctoral thesis in a public session* before the doctoral thesis defense committee, according to the procedure approved by the ULBS Senate.

Analysis of the state of facts

Within the Industrial Engineering doctoral field, a systematic and coherent evaluation approach is employed, with the aim of effectively verifying the extent to which doctoral students achieve the intended learning outcomes

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.7. Procedures and practices regarding the admission competition, the journey, recognition and equivalence of studies, and result certification

Standard S.B.7.1. Admission

The admission procedures and principles ensure access to higher education.

Indicator

I.P.B.7.1.1

The organisational component applies the admission procedures.

Presentation of the state of facts

All information regarding the admission process admission process is communicated to the public in a transparent manner, by posting it on the website <https://doctorate.ulbsibiu.ro/ro/admitere/> and through other information channels (mass media), ensuring that candidates have full and clear access to all relevant details. Internal validation of the regulations and admission calendar is carried out annually, in accordance with legal requirements and good institutional practices:

- Regulations for admission to doctoral studies;
- The admission regulations, which include the conditions, criteria, and deadlines for admission to ULBS;
- The framework methodology for organizing the admission process, established by the Ministry of Education and Research and adapted by ULBS;
- The process of internal validation of the regulations and admission calendar, for compliance with the framework methodology;
- Public announcements regarding admission, posted on the ULBS website and in other informational materials;
- Distribution of places for doctoral studies, list of supervisors eligible doctoral students, proposed research topics.

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS, through CSUD and doctoral schools has its own admission methodology for doctoral students, applied in a transparent and rigorous manner, based on the principle of equal opportunities for all candidates

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator

I.P.B.7.1.2

Admission in higher education study programmes complies with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, and with the establishing of support measures to ensure access of vulnerable groups at social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Presentation of the state of facts

Admission to the Industrial Engineering doctoral program is based on the principles of fairness, equal opportunity, and social inclusion, in accordance with national regulations and the institutional policy of IOSUDULBS. The Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics promotes an accessible and equitable admission framework, adapted to the needs of candidates from vulnerable groups, who are at social or educational risk, as well as those with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

- The admission regulations, which specify the principles of fairness, equal opportunities, and measures to support for access for vulnerable groups,
- Institutional policy on social inclusion and equal opportunities in the admission process;
- Procedures and guidelines for accommodating candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities: Methodology for preventing, combating, and sanctioning any form of discrimination and/or violation of human dignity at ULBS and Methodology for the organization and functioning of the Career Counseling and Guidance Department.

Analysis of the state of facts

The admission procedure for doctoral studies represents the process of selecting candidates for each available doctoral student position, as proposed by the doctoral supervisors within the doctoral school at a given time. The **Engineering Sciences and Mathematics** Doctoral School ensures full transparency of the selection procedures for doctoral admission, the evaluation criteria, and the standards required of candidates, as well as guaranteed access to this information, including through online publication. All such information, along with the available doctoral student positions for each doctoral supervisor, is published on the IOSUD-ULBS website and displayed at the premises of each doctoral school

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.B.7.2. Academic journey of students

The organisational component carries out actions supporting the students' academic journey.

Indicator I.P.B.7.2.1	The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.
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Presentation of the state of facts

The academic progress of doctoral students is monitored and documented by the Doctoral, Postdoctoral, and Habilitation Studies Service within IOSUD-ULBS, reflecting their academic status, promotion, and individual performance throughout their doctoral studies. Monitoring involves both recording academic and scientific results and assessing compliance with ethical and academic conduct standards. Documents used to support this process are available at <https://doctorate.ulbsibiu.ro/ro/documente/>.

Analysis of the state of facts

The Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics provides constant support for the academic progress of doctoral students by implementing institutional regulations regarding their activities. The educational process is carried out in accordance with the legal regulations in force regarding doctoral studies and with the specific regulations/procedures approved at the IOSUD-ULBS level,

Recommendations There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.8. Internationalisation process

Standard S.B.8.1. Internationalisation

Improving the quality of education and research through internationalisation actions.

Indicator
I.P.B.8.1.1

The organisational component carries out international cooperation actions supporting mobility of the members of its own community and collaboration in academic and research activities.

Presentation of the state of facts

International activity at the IOSUD-ULBS level is strengthened through participation in educational, research, and social projects and partnerships, as well as through the conclusion of memoranda of understanding and collaboration agreements with universities and higher education institutions abroad: International projects and partnerships in education, research, and social issues: Structural Programs Department, Research, Development, and Innovation Service, International Relations Department, Memorandum of understanding or cooperation agreements with universities and higher education institutions in other countries, Procedures and guidelines for student and academic staff mobility, including exchange and mobility agreements, Annual reports on international cooperation and academic mobility activities, Participation in international research programs and community projects with social impact. International cooperation and academic mobility are also achieved through international joint doctoral studies or by co-opting foreign teaching staff into academic guidance and integrity committees/doctoral thesis support committees. Joint doctoral programs are organized in accordance with the ULBS Methodology for conducting joint doctoral studies. The entry of IOSUD-ULBS into the European FORTHEM Alliance in 2021 has led to an increase in internationalisation.

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS supports the increase of the quality of education and research through concrete internationalization actions, in accordance with the ULBS International Cooperation Strategy. The Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics supports and promotes the mobility of doctoral students, doctoral supervisors, academic and administrative staff, thus contributing to the development of the international dimension of doctoral studies..

Recommendations

Expanding the network of international partnerships, diversifying mobility opportunities, and increasing participation in educational and research projects at the European and global levels

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion B.9. Scientific research results

Standard S.B.9.1 Scientific research in the education process

Scientific research activities support students in achieving the learning outcomes.

Indicator
I.P.B.9.1.1

Learning based on scientific investigation and research results support and are capitalised upon in achieving the learning outcomes envisaged through the study programme.

Presentation of the state of facts

ULBS strategic directions, through the content of the documents Procedures and guidelines for integrating research results into the educational process and ULBS research strategy, which includes objectives and priorities in the field of scientific research. The integration of research is reflected in the Subject Sheets including references to learning strategies based on scientific investigation, Curriculums and individual research programs, Research reports developed by doctoral students, Scientific papers/articles published by doctoral students, Doctoral theses developed by doctoral students.

Analysis of the state of facts

Within the Industrial Engineering doctoral program, scientific research activities are systematically integrated into the doctoral curriculum, contributing significantly to the acquisition of professional and transversal skills and to the achievement of the learning outcomes set out in the curriculum

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.B.9.2. Scientific research pertaining to the objectives of the study programme

The organisational component carries out scientific research activities aligned with the objectives of the evaluated study programme.

Indicator I.P.B.9.2.1	The results of scientific research are visible at national and international level in that scientific domain, and capitalised upon in an adequate manner.
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Presentation of the state of facts

The research results are visible at national and international level, being reflected in:

- Annual reports and strategic research plans of the Faculty of Engineering and the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics;
- Scientific publications and articles in internationally indexed journals, produced by doctoral supervisors and doctoral students;
- International partnerships and collaborations in the field of scientific research;
- Research projects funded by national and international agencies;
- Participation in international conferences and symposiums, including the organization of scientific events;

Analysis of the state of facts

The scientific research activity carried out by doctoral students and doctoral supervisors is aligned with the objectives of the doctoral study program in Industrial Engineering and aims to strengthen the specific scientific field by generating relevant, innovative, and applicable knowledge

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator.

The indicator is: fulfilled

DOMAIN C. Quality management

Criterion C.1. Quality assurance strategies and procedures, including in the field of academic ethics and conduct, which involve students, employers and other stakeholders and are applied in a consistent, transparent manner

Standard S.C.1.1. Application

Adequately implemented strategic directions, actions, and procedures

Indicator I.P.C.1.1.1	The organisational component consistently carries out actions and applies procedures, proving their impact on improving the quality of education at the level of the study programme
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Presentation of the state of facts

In ULBS's quality assurance policy is demonstrates the existence and functioning of quality assurance structures and mechanisms Annual operational plans; CEAC reports on the implementation of quality assurance measures, SCEAC annual report at the IOSUD-ULBS level; Annual reports on activities at the IOSUD-ULBS level; The IOSUD-ULBS methodology for obtaining the habilitation certificate.;

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD ULBS, through the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics, proves the existence and functioning of quality assurance structures and mechanisms. The efficiency and applicability of the measures and procedures implemented to improve the quality of the doctoral program in the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering is also supported by eEvaluations and feedback from doctoral students (satisfaction questionnaires, need for mentoring), which will be made available to the ARACIS evaluation committee at the time of the visit, Research activity reporting (GRADIS) by doctoral students and doctoral supervisors, who are members of IOSUD-ULBS

Recommendations

Regular updating of internal procedures, more active integration of student assessment data, and expansion of mechanisms for monitoring the real impact of measures taken on educational outcomes

The indicator is: fulfilled

Standard S.C.1.2. Stakeholder engagement

The HEI proves that it engages the stakeholders who have relevant activity in applying the procedures.

Indicator I.P.C.1.2.1	The opinions of the members of its own community and of other stakeholders are taken into account in the procedure implementation process.
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Presentation of the state of facts

The opinions of members of the academic community are integrated into the process of implementing procedures through consultations and debates at the level of the university Senate, the Board of Directors, as well as at the level of the CSUD and the Doctoral School Councils. All decisions are published on the website to ensure a transparent decision-making process. Following consultations, the opinions of community members are included in the strategic documents and regulations revised at the IOSUD-ULBS level: The multi-annual strategic plan, Operational plans for the last 5 years, ULBS Strategy 2025-2034, ULBS Charter, Regulations for the organization and conduct of doctoral studies. The reports on the Measurement of the degree of satisfaction and the need for mentoring (questionnaires, surveys, focus groups) are presented in Annex I.P.C.1.2.1. Report on the measurement of the degree of satisfaction and the need for mentoring of REI.

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS demonstrates the active involvement of stakeholders - doctoral students, doctoral supervisors, doctors, employers, institutional partners, in the process of implementing procedures

Recommendations : There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.2. Functionality of education quality assurance structures, including in the field of academic ethics and conduct, according to the law

Standard S.C.2.2. Operation Quality assurance and academic ethics and conduct organisational structures adequately perform their specific role and functions.	
Indicator I.P.C.2.2.2.	The academic ethics commission operates based on the regulation approved by the University Senate, and performs actions that are compliant with the law, independently from any other structure or person in the higher education institution.

Presentation of the state of facts

The ULBS Ethics Committee functioning are supported by documents such as: The regulations governing the operation of the University Ethics Committee; The decision of the University Senate in which the regulations were approved; The Code of University Ethics and Professional Conduct; The annual reports of the University Ethics Committee; The decisions and rulings issued by the Ethics Committee; Documents attesting to the independence of the Ethics Committee; ULBS strategy for preventing and combating plagiarism; National legislation on academic ethics.

Analysis of the state of facts

The ULBS Ethics Committee carries out its activity under the regulations approved by the ULBS Senate, acting autonomously towards any structure or person within the university, in accordance with the provisions of national legislation. The Research Ethics Subcommittee plays a very important role in doctoral studies

Recommendations : Continuously updating the regulatory framework in line with legislative developments

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.3. Procedures for the initiation, monitoring and periodic review of the study programmes and domains and of the performed activities, involving students, employers and other stakeholders

Standard S.C.3.1. Procedures and implementation of procedures The HEI has procedures for initiating, monitoring, and periodically reviewing the study programmes and domains and the performed activities, and applies them systematically.	
Indicator I.P.C.3.1.1	The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.

Presentation of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS has procedures approved in accordance with the legislation in force, which regulate the initiation, monitoring, and review of study programs and fields and related activities. These are systematically applied and periodically reviewed based on institutional regulations Regulations and procedures for initiating, monitoring, and reviewing programs and fields of study studies, Regulations governing the functioning of the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee (CEAC), Regulations of the technical-administrative and support structures involved in quality assurance, Decisions of the University Senate in which the procedures were approved Senate Decisions Regulations governing the functioning of the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee Quality Assessment and Assurance Commission (CEAC) and Regulations of the technical-administrative and support structures involved in quality assurance. The consistent application of these procedures contributes to improving the quality of programs and activities carried out within the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering, as evidenced by: CEAC report, SCEAC Report, CSUD decisions, ARACIS evaluation reports

Analysis of the state of facts

Based on the analysis of the data provided and the documents reviewed, it is evident that institutional procedures concerning quality assurance and the evaluation of the educational and scientific research process are applied consistently and rigorously, in accordance with the Higher Education Law no. 199/2023, the Code of Doctoral Studies, and ARACIS standards.

Recommendations: There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P.C.3.1.2	Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.
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Presentation of the state of facts

In the process of implementing procedures for initiating, monitoring, and periodically reviewing programs and fields of study, members of the academic community from the Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences and Mathematics, the Faculty of Engineering, and other interested parties are actively involved. In this regard, the following procedures apply Regulations and procedures for initiating, monitoring, and reviewing study programs and fields, Regulations on the operation of the Quality Assessment and Assurance Committee (CEAC), Regulations governing the technical, administrative, and support structures involved in quality assurance. A participatory approach is in place, ensuring the continuous alignment of the study programme with the needs and expectations of doctoral students, labour market requirements, developments in the scientific and professional fields, as well as quality and accreditation standards. Examples of stakeholder involvement include concrete proposals for curriculum updates from employers, the adaptation of certain disciplines to labour market demands, and the introduction of transversal themes or digital competencies following consultation with relevant stakeholders. Through this mechanism, the organisational component demonstrates a genuine commitment to quality assurance and a sustained openness towards collaboration and continuous improvement

Analysis of the state of facts

The organisational component has procedures that are implemented consistently, supported by feedback instruments and annual review mechanisms, which ensure the adaptability and continuous updating of the programme. Members of the academic community—teaching staff, doctoral students, and administrative personnel—are actively involved, together with external stakeholders such as employers, alumni, and representatives of the socio-economic environment, in the process of implementing procedures related to the initiation, monitoring, and revision of study programmes.

Recommendations

Expanding regular consultations, diversifying feedback collection tools, and systematically integrating their proposals into the processes of reviewing doctoral study areas

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.4. Procedures for the periodic evaluation of the quality of the activities of teaching staff, auxiliary teaching staff, and administrative staff

Standard S.C.4.1. Procedures

Applying the methodologies and procedures contributes to improving the quality of the staff's activities.

Indicator I.P.C.4.1.1	The organisational component analyses the results of the students' biannual evaluation of teachers.
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Presentation of the state of facts

The process of measuring the degree of satisfaction and mentoring needs of doctoral students takes place annually and is done by collecting feedback using Google Forms. The questionnaire is distributed through Classroom, created specifically for doctoral students. The results are centralized and analyzed by the Subcommittee for Evaluation and Quality Assurance at the IOSUD-ULBS level. The results are summarized in the annual reports on the activity of IOSUDULBS

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS are mechanisms for anal the results of the students' biannual evaluation of teachers.

Recommendations There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.5. Systematically updated databases on internal quality assurance

Standard S.C.5.1. Databases

The HEI uses databases to support internal quality assurance activities.

Indicator I.P.C.5.1.1	The organisational component systematically collects and analyses data required for the internal quality assurance process.
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Presentation of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS has implemented a rigorous data collection and analysis system, in accordance with The Quality Assurance Regulation and CEAC methodology for data collection and analysis. The process is supported by institutional procedures that use internal databases, which include relevant information on academic performance, professional integration, and student satisfaction Clear institutional procedures using internal databases; Internal database used to collect relevant information (data on academic performance, professional integration, student satisfaction), Sets of indicators defined by ULBS for quality assurance (correlated with the mission and strategic objectives) Annual operational plans. At the level of doctoral studies, the activity of doctoral students is closely monitored, with an increased focus on the completion of doctoral studies. Thus, after the doctoral theses are defended before the academic guidance and integrity committees (which are public), they are posted on the <https://rei.gov.ro/teze-consultare> platform and are available for public consultation for a period of 90 days. Anyone interested can submit feedback and comments on the posted theses, which the doctoral student will then incorporate into their doctoral thesis. After completing the necessary steps and publicly defending their doctoral theses, they are uploaded to the <https://rei.gov.ro/index.php> platform for validation by the CNATDCU. IOSUD-ULBS provides doctoral students with access to the sistemantiplagiat.ro platform.

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS has implemented a rigorous data collection and analysis system, in accordance with CEAC methodology for data collection and analysis

Recommendations There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.6. Transparency of information of public interest, including those regarding the study programmes and domains offered, and transparency regarding the related certificates, diplomas and qualifications

Standard S.C.6.1. Transparency

The organisational component ensures transparency of information, as required by the law.

Indicator I.P.C.6.1.1	The organisational component ensures publication and access to information of public interest regarding the evaluated study programme.
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Presentation of the state of facts

Information of public interest regarding doctoral studies in general, and the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering in particular, is available in a transparent manner on the official website of ULBS and on the web page dedicated to doctoral studies, which hosts all documents related to the organization and conduct of doctoral studies, from regulations, methodologies, and procedures, to documents, fields and supervisors, preliminary and final defenses, to admission and completion of doctoral studies

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD ULBS ensures access to public interest information for the Industrial Engineering doctoral program

Recommendations There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Indicator I.P.C.6.1.2	The organisational component ensures transparent decision-making processes.
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Presentation of the state of facts

IOSUD ULBS publishes documents such as The rector's report, Code and decisions of management structures/ethics committees, Positions open for competition, Methodologies, regulations, procedures; student rights and obligations, Decisions, Regulations on institutional transparency and procedures for publishing public information public information, The official website of ULBS (including the section on transparency and accessibility of public information, Decisions of the Senate and other relevant governing bodies (regarding the approval of information disclosure strategies, ULBS annual activity report, which includes information on the institution's achievements, strategic and financial plans, Published financial documents (annual budget, expenditures, sources of funding) Institutional regulations and procedures governing access to information of public interest, Internal and external audit reports (if relevant to the transparency of activities): ULBS reports and studies, Regulations, methodologies, procedures at the CSUD level, CSUD decisions

Analysis of the state of facts

The transparency of decision-making processes regarding the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering is ensured through the official website of IOSUD-ULBS and the page dedicated to CSUD and Doctoral Schools

Recommendations There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

Criterion C.8. Participation in external evaluation processes, according to the law

Standard S.C.8.1. Compliance with the external evaluation obligation

The HEI undergoes external quality evaluation as required by the law.

Indicator I.P.C.8.1.1	The organisational component carries out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process, aiming to organise the evaluated study programme as provided by the law.
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Presentation of the state of facts

At IOSUD ULBS, all necessary procedures have been initiated to undergo external quality evaluation by formally requesting an external mission for the maintenance of accreditation of the doctoral study field in Industrial Engineering. The request was made following Decision No. 74 / 30.09.2021 of the ARACIS Council, which granted maintenance of the accreditation of the field. Also, the Industrial Engineering doctoral field was subjected to interim analysis based on the Progress Report

Analysis of the state of facts

IOSUD-ULBS, through the Doctoral School of Engineering and Mathematics, which coordinates the field of doctoral studies in Industrial Engineering, ensures that the procedures necessary for the external quality assessment process are carried out in accordance with the legislation in force.

Recommendations There are no recommendations for this indicator

The indicator is: fulfilled

IV. SWOT Analysis

Strengths: ✓ The quality and research experience of doctoral supervisors and other teaching staff – members of the supervision teams who are researchers with international visibility and results. The ability of some doctoral supervisors to coordinate theses in English; ✓ The quality of the research infrastructure (Research centers, laboratories, etc.) meets international standards ✓ Strong links with the industrial environment through multiple partnerships ✓ The existence of a practice in supporting students - doctoral candidates for participation in conferences, publication of articles, research internships ✓ IOSUD participation through ULBS in international alliances (FORTHEM case) ✓ Solid selection basis through the organization of university master's programs, including in English, in the Field of Industrial Engineering ✓ The operation of the Doctoral School in a city with developed industry and located in a favorable geographical area	INTERNAL FACTORS ↑	Weaknesses: ✓ Relatively low number of budgetary places / with scholarship upon admission ✓ Few theses completed in co-tutorship ✓ School dropout among PhD students ✗ Few foreign PhD students ✗ Reduction in the number of PhD supervisors in the field since the last external evaluation
SWOT analysis		
Opportunities: ✓ The pace of development of the city of Sibiu and especially of the industrial field ✓ The demand of the industrial and educational environment in the area for doctoral graduates in the field of Industrial Engineering ✓ The possibility of participating in projects with international funding for doctoral students ✓ The attractiveness of the city and ULSB for foreign students ✓ The existence of a true cult in the development of study programs in foreign languages	EXTERNAL FACTORS ↓	Threats: ✓ The existence of a decreasing trend in interest in doctoral studies ✓ Suspension of funding for research stimulation programs at the national level (research awards, human resources programs, etc.) ✓ Using artificial intelligence without respecting ethical norms ✓ Insufficient funding for doctoral programs

V. Extent to which the standards and performance indicators are fulfilled, and recommendations

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
DOMAIN A. Institutional capacity			
1.	I.P.A.1.1.1 For delivering the study programme/domain, the HEI has adequate organisational components and an adequate management system, which operate based on methodologies, regulations and procedures that are periodically reviewed as required by law.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
2.	I.P.A.1.2.1 The opinions of the faculty and department members, of the subsidiary or extension and of other stakeholders are considered in the process of adopting and revising methodologies, regulations and implementation procedures.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
3.	I.P.A.2.1.1 The HEI legally owns venues for the related education, research and administrative processes, as well as for services for students, doctoral students and trainees, thus providing an enabling environment for living and studying, including for disabled persons. Optimal venues are also provided for activities of the staff. Such venues are adequately equipped.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
4.	I.P.A.2.2.1 The movable and immovable assets are properly maintained to ensure optimal conditions for studying, living and research, as well as for work.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
5.	I.P.A.3.1.1 The human resources of the organisational component are suitable to perform the activities pertaining to the evaluated study programme/domain. The teaching staff has the required qualifications and professional competences to teach the subject matters assigned to them in the job list.	Fulfilled	Increasing the number of PhD supervisors
6.	I.P.A.3.1.2 The HEI ensures professional and personal development for its staff.	Fulfilled	Expansion of training programs for PhD supervisors
7.	I.P.A.3.2.1 Recruitment procedures comply with the provisions of the law, and are established and carried out transparently.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
8.	I.P.A.4.1.1 The organisational component uses IT tools in its own procedures, to improve access and provide good quality services for the members of its own community and the indirect beneficiaries of education.	Fulfilled	To continue to expand digitization by integrating advanced IT solutions, interconnecting existing platforms, and automating processes

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
DOMAIN B. Educational efficacy			
9.	I.P.B.1.1.1 The study programme is developed and structured according to the expected learning outcomes, and organised based on transferable study credits. It includes all learning, teaching, practical training, research and evaluation experiences, which, together, lead to a higher education qualification.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
10.	I.P.B.2.1.2 The expected learning outcomes are correlated with the competences required by those occupations, according to the occupational standards and/or the European Skills, Competences and Occupations (ESCO).	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
11.	I.P.B.3.1.1 The organisational component ensures implementation of the student-centred learning in the curriculum and through the teaching strategies used in the learning and teaching activities and experiences.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
12.	I.P.B.3.1.2 The organisational component ensures opportunities for students to participate in academic mobility programmes organised in person and/or virtually.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
13.	I.P.B.3.2.1 The organisational component provides fair opportunities for students, in line with their potential and aspirations, taking into account the diversity of learning styles and abilities.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
14.	I.P.B.4.1.1 The organisational component provides students, including those with special educational needs/disabilities, with access to resources and services designed to support the learning process, adequate for the individual learning needs, the study domain, the study cycle, and the form of organisation of the study programme.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
15.	I.P.B.5.1.1 Learning outcomes are adequately described, and they support understanding of the students' and teachers' expectations regarding the content of the subject matters in the curriculum.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
16.	I.P.B.5.1.2 Achievement of the learning outcomes is checked in ongoing examinations and study completion exams.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
17.	I.P.B.7.1.1 The organisational component applies the admission procedures.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
18.	I.P.B.7.1.2 Admission in higher education study programmes complies with the principles of fairness and equal opportunities, and with the establishing of support measures to ensure access of vulnerable groups at social and educational risk, including candidates with special educational needs and/or disabilities.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
19.	I.P.B.7.2.1 The organisational component applies the regulations concerning the students' professional activity.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
20.	I.P.B.8.1.1 The organisational component carries out international cooperation actions supporting mobility of the members of its own community and collaboration in academic and research activities.	Fulfilled	Expanding the network of international partnerships, diversifying mobility opportunities, and increasing participation in educational and research projects at the European and global levels
21.	I.P.B.9.1.1 Learning based on scientific investigation and research results support and are capitalised upon in achieving the learning outcomes envisaged through the study programme.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
22.	I.P.B.9.2.1 The results of scientific research are visible at national and international level in that scientific domain, and capitalised upon in an adequate manner.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
DOMAIN C. Quality management			
23.	I.P.C.1.1.1 The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.	Fulfilled	Regular updating of internal procedures, more active integration of student assessment data, and expansion of mechanisms for monitoring the real impact of measures taken on educational outcomes
24.	I.P.C.1.2.1 The opinions of the members of its own community and of other stakeholders are taken into account in the procedure implementation process.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
25.	I.P.C.2.2.2. The academic ethics commission operates based on the regulation approved by the University Senate, and performs actions that are compliant with the law, independently from any other structure or person in the higher education institution.	Fulfilled	Continuously updating the regulatory framework in line with legislative developments

No.	Performance Indicator	Extent to which it was fulfilled (F/PF/UF)	Recommendations
26.	I.P.C.3.1.1 The organisational component consistently applies the procedures, and proves their impact on quality assurance.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
27.	I.P.C.3.1.2 Members of its own community and other stakeholders are involved in the procedure implementation process.	Fulfilled	Expanding regular consultations, diversifying feedback collection tools, and systematically integrating their proposals into the processes of reviewing doctoral study areas
28.	I.P.C.4.1.1 The organisational component analyses the results of the students' biannual evaluation of teachers.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
29.	I.P.C.5.1.1 The organisational component systematically collects and analyses data required for the internal quality assurance process.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
30.	I.P.C.6.1.1 The organisational component ensures publication and access to information of public interest regarding the evaluated study programme.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
31.	I.P.C.6.1.2 The organisational component ensures transparent decision-making processes.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator
32.	I.P.C.8.1.1 The organisational component carries out the procedures pertaining to the external quality evaluation process, aiming to organise the evaluated study programme as provided by the law.	Fulfilled	There are no recommendations for this indicator

Summary Table of Performance Indicators – Degree of Fulfillment

Evaluation Domain	Number of Performance Indicators		
	Fulfilled	Partially fulfilled	Unfulfilled
Domain A. Institutional capacity	8	0	0
Domain B. Educational efficacy	14	0	0
Domain C. Quality management	10	0	0
Total	32	0	0

VI. Conclusions

This periodic external evaluation report was prepared for the evaluation of the Doctoral Field of Industrial Engineering at **LUCIAN BLAGA University of Sibiu**.

Evaluation type: **Evaluation for Maintaining accreditation (MAC) in of the field of doctoral studies Industrial Engineering**

Evaluation visit period: **May 20 – 22, 2026**

Following the analysis of the Internal Evaluation Report and its annexes, as well as all the activities undertaken by the evaluation team, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. The IOSUD activity and the organization of doctoral studies are carried out on the basis of regulations, procedures and other specific documents, in accordance with legal provisions and are in accordance with CNC/EQF level 8 requirements;
2. The evaluated doctoral field has a clear and well-defined mission and the objectives meet the demands of the labor market and the requirements of society in general; The field has prospects for exploiting multiple opportunities, among which we mention the special development dynamics of the region and the city of Sibiu, the economic and social environment favorable to the achievement of an educational process at a high level of exigency, the wide diversity of topics offered by the field of Industrial Engineering, the possibility of attracting foreign doctoral students.
3. Monitoring of doctoral students and their academic progress is ensured by using dedicated IT systems; The advanced academic training program is adequate and includes relevant disciplines that support the training in scientific research of doctoral students
4. Scientific research carried out within the Doctoral School is based on topics relevant to the fields it manages and involves doctoral students; research activities specific to the field of Industrial Engineering can be carried out in research centers and laboratories equipped with high-performance instruments;
5. Doctoral students benefit from financial support for professional development, travel, participation fees at scientific events, publication of scientific articles and research consumables; The results obtained during the doctoral studies were published in articles in ISI Web of Science (Clarivate Analytics) journals and in journals indexed in international databases.
6. The seven doctoral supervisors in the field of Industrial Engineering meet the CNATDCU standards in force and have visible scientific achievements both nationally and internationally;
7. The doctoral school ensures the transparency of the selection and admission procedures for doctoral studies and guarantees access to information through multiple accessible means, including through the existence of a dedicated section on the ULSB website;
8. The evaluation carried out followed the periodic evaluation carried out in 2021, following which the accreditation was maintained and the external progress evaluation in 2024, where it was found that all recommendations were implemented. This state of affairs is maintained at the level of 2026, the committee noting that, still, all indicators are met. However, the evaluation committee made a series of recommendations to counteract the weaknesses resulting from the SWOT analysis, the most important of which are considered to be increasing the number of budgetary / scholarship places upon admission, the completion of theses under co-supervision, reducing school dropout among doctoral students, increasing the number of foreign doctoral students, increasing the number of doctoral supervisors in the field.

Propose and substantiate a decision.

Following the completion of the accreditation/maintaining accreditation procedure, the decision of the evaluation panel shall be one of the following:*

- a) **maintaining accreditation** (MAC);

VII. Annexes

the schedule of the on-site visit

the minutes of the meetings

* When the external quality evaluation for accreditation is performed with undergoing the procedure for obtaining a provisional authorisation to operate.