

The External Evaluation Report of a Doctoral Study Domain

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I. Introduction¹

UNATC evaluation took place from July 26-30, 2021. It took place in a hybrid setting, and I was able to participate virtually, via zoom.

The evaluation team was led by Professor Anton HADAR and coordinated by Prof. Anca CIOBOTARU.

UNATC has only one Doctoral School focused on two areas of study: THEATRE - scientific research / artistic research / artistic creation and CINEMA AND MEDIA - scientific research / artistic research / artistic creation. According to international standards, the UNATC Doctoral School is certified to offer a scientific doctorate. D. studies require in-depth knowledge and scientific and professional expertise.

The doctoral school of UNATC "I.L. Caragiale" is the oldest structure of doctoral studies oriented in the fields of Theatre Performing Arts and Film and Media in Romania. UNATC has a single Doctorat School, with rank of Department.

As indicated in the self-evaluation documents "Internal evaluation report of the doctoral field of study Film and Media 2021", three periods marked the development of the institution: the first (1990-2004) saw the establishment and foundations of the Doctoral School, with 113 successfully defended theses; the second (2004-2011) marked a profound upheaval and metamorphosis following the Bologna recommendations, with 246 successfully defended theses; the third (2011-2021) saw a development of practices and an increased dynamic with the arrival of new professors, with 199 successfully defended theses

¹ Each time when applicable the information shall be presented gender-wise.



Missions of the Doctoral School :

- A Training Mission, aiming at the existing specializations as well as the development of individual or collective research projects, integrated in research themes requiring teamwork, specific to cinematographic art, Film and media
- A creative mission, aimed at scientific research and/or artistic creation, the development of the creative personality of doctoral students within the framework of the acquisition of national and universal values specific to the field;
- A complementary formative mission, which implies the articulation of the projects with the socio-cultural development policies, in order to raise awareness of human issues and moral values, and to integrate with the development of the Romanian culture.

II. Methods used

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

- The analysis of the internal evaluation report of the doctoral study area under review;
- The analysis of the documents, data and information available on the IOSUD/Doctoral Schools website, in electronic format;
- The general context of the UNATC Doctoral School was captured from the conversation with the different participants and partners, teachers, doctoral students because, due to health conditions, the on-site visit was not possible.
- Meetings/discussions with doctoral students in the area of doctoral studies being evaluated;
- Meetings/discussions with graduates in the doctoral field of study being reviewed;
- Meetings/discussions with employers of graduates in the doctoral field of study under review;
- Meetings/discussions with the heads of the doctoral school(s) in which the doctoral field of study under review operates;
- Meeting/discussion with the doctoral advisors in the field of doctoral studies under review;
- Meeting/discussion with representatives of the different IOSUD structures/doctoral school(s) in which the field of doctoral studies under review operates;
- Application of questionnaires to doctoral students or academic staff of the doctoral study area examined.

III. Analysis of ARACIS's performance indicators

Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

**general description of domain analysis.*



Criterion A.1. The administrative, managerial institutional structures and the financial resources

**general description of the criterion analysis.*

IOSUD adheres to the official regulations on the conduct of doctoral programs and prescribed quality assurance procedures, as well as to its own internal governance regulations. Detailed information on the program regulations is available on the institution's website, and the relevant institutional structures and processes are described in the communicated annexes.

Standard A.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies (IOSUD) has implemented the effective functioning mechanisms provided for in the specific legislation on the organization of doctoral studies.

**general description of the standard analysis.*

The reviewers confirmed that the required mechanisms had been implemented and were operating effectively. Institutional processes were also carefully reviewed in the interest of ongoing quality assurance.

Performance Indicator A.1.1.1. The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the Doctoral School of the respective university doctoral study domain:

This condition is fulfilled and this has been verified in the conversation and in the self-evaluation documents: internal regulations of the administrative structures (Institutional Regulations on the Organization and Operation of Doctoral Studies, Regulations of the Doctoral Schools); The UNATC Film and Media Doctoral School operates on the basis of the following regulations, in addition to other legislation: Institutional Regulations on the Organization and Operation of Doctoral Studies Programs - Doctor of Arts, adopted by Decision of the University Senate, in force at the date of the internal evaluation; Regulations of the Doctoral School of Theatre - Regulations on the Organization and Operation of the Doctoral Studies Program - Doctor of Film and Media

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator A.1.1.2. The doctoral school' Regulation includes mandatory criteria, procedures and standards binding on the aspects specified in Article 17, paragraph (5) of the Government Decision No. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies with subsequent amendments and additions.

The condition is fulfilled, as it is seen from the self-evaluation documents.

The indicator is fulfilled

Standard A.1.2. The IOSUD has the logistical resources necessary to carry out the doctoral studies' mission.

**general description of the standard analysis.*



Performance Indicator A.1.2.1. *The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system to keep track of doctoral students and their academic background.*

The self-evaluation documents clearly show that this condition is met. The colleagues who visited the institution have verified that all the capacities of the institution are fulfilled.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator A.1.2.2. *The existence and use of an appropriate software program and evidence of its use to verify the percentage of similarity in all doctoral theses.*

Anti-plagiarism software is available on the institution and all students and PhD supervisors are well informed about the procedures.

The indicator is fulfilled

Standard A.1.3. *The IOSUD makes sure that financial resources are used optimally, and the revenues obtained from doctoral studies are supplemented through additional funding besides governmental funding.*

**general description of the standard analysis.*

Performance Indicator A.1.3.1. *Existence of at least one research or institutional / human resources development grant under implementation at the time of submission of the internal evaluation file, per doctoral study domain under evaluation, or existence of at least 2 research or institutional development / human resources grant for the doctoral study domain, obtained by doctoral thesis advisors operating in the evaluated domain within the past 5 years. The grants address relevant themes for the respective domain and, as a rule, are engaging doctoral students.*

As detailed in the self-study report, the film arts staff has been remarkably successful in obtaining research grants and is involved in an impressive array of research projects.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator *A.1.3.2. *The percentage of doctoral students active at the time of the evaluation, who for at least six months receive additional funding sources besides government funding, through scholarships awarded by individual persons or by legal entities, or who are financially supported through research or institutional / human resources development grants is not less than 20%.*

Although the amounts obtained are quite small, the institution's self-evaluation report shows a quite satisfactory percentage of evidence of external funding obtained by students for research projects.

The indicator is fulfilled



Performance Indicator *A.1.3.3.² *At least 10% of the total amount of doctoral grants obtained by the university through institutional contracts and of tuition fees collected from the doctoral students enrolled in the paid tuition system is used to reimburse professional training expenses of doctoral students (attending conferences, summer schools, training, programs abroad, publication of specialty papers or other specific forms of dissemination etc.).*

Most of the students enroll the system via contract.

The self-study report indicates that support has been provided for a range of student activities, including publications and exhibitions. In the appendix, evidence of equipment purchases is provided.

Recommendations:

We recommend that the institution explore ways to increase financial support for participation in high-level national and international conferences.

The indicator is fulfilled

Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure

**general description of the criterion analysis.*

Standard A.2.1. The IOSUD has a modern research infrastructure to support the conduct of doctoral studies' specific activities.

**general description of the standard analysis.*

The documentation provided and the onsite visit confirmed that appropriate facilities and infrastructure are available to support high-level doctoral research.

Performance Indicator A.2.1.1. *The venues and the material equipment available to the doctoral school enable the research activities in the evaluated domain to be carried out, in line with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases etc.). The research infrastructure and the provision of research services are presented to the public through a specific platform. The research infrastructure described above, which was purchased and developed within the past 5 years will be presented distinctly.*

Unfortunately, I was not able to participate in an on-site visit, but the colleagues on the evaluation committee all affirmed that the premises and physical equipment available to the UNATC doctoral school are adequate to carry out research activities in the area evaluated.

The indicator is fulfilled

² The indicators marked with an asterisk (*) hold a special status, referring exclusively to the evaluation of doctoral studies domains, as per Article 12 from the annex No.1 of the Order of the minister of education No. 3651/12.04.2021 approving the Methodology for evaluating university doctoral studies and the system of criteria, standards and performance indicators used in the evaluation. In case they are not met, the Agency extends a period of maximum 3 years to IOSUD to correct the respective deficiencies.



Criterion A.3. Quality of Human Resources

**general description of the criterion analysis.*

Standard A.3.1. At the level of each domain there are sufficient qualified staff to ensure the conduct of doctoral study program.

**general description of the standard analysis.*

The quality and competence of the teaching staff and researchers are one of UNATC's great strengths. The thesis directors of the FIILM AND MEDIA program are personalities of national and international renown in their respective fields.

Performance Indicator A.3.1.1. Minimum three doctoral thesis advisors within that doctoral domain, and at least 50% of them (but no less than three) meet the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the time when the evaluation is carried out, which standards are required and mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.

At the level of each area, there are sufficient qualified personnel to ensure the conduct of the doctoral program.

All doctoral mentors meet the criteria of the CNATDCU.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator *A.3.1.2. At least 50% of all doctoral advisors have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the IOSUD.

The doctoral student mentors are tenured. This criterion is therefore largely met.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator A.3.1.3. The study subjects in the education program based on advanced higher education studies pertaining to the doctoral domain are taught by teaching staff or researchers who are doctoral thesis advisors / certified doctoral thesis advisors, professors / CS I or lecturer / CS II, with proved expertise in the field of the study subjects they teach, or other specialists in the field who meet the standards established by the institution in relation with the aforementioned teaching and research functions, as provided by the law.

The disciplines in the advanced academic-based training program are taught by faculty or researchers who are doctoral mentors/qualified, professors or lecturers with demonstrated expertise in the field of the disciplines taught or by other specialists in the field who meet the standards set by the institution for the teaching and research positions mentioned above.

The indicator is fulfilled



Performance Indicator *A.3.1.4. *The percentage of doctoral thesis advisors who concomitantly coordinate more than 8 doctoral students, but no more than 12, who are themselves studying in doctoral programs³ does not exceed 20%.*

Supervisory loads remained within the prescribed limits (Cf. Appendix)

The indicator is fulfilled

Standard A.3.2. The Doctoral advisors within the domain are carrying out a scientific activity visible at international level.

**general description of the standard analysis.*

The Film and Media Ph.D. supervisors fully satisfy this criterion, as evidenced by the appendices.

Performance Indicator A.3.2.1. *At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in the evaluated domain have at least 5 Web of Science- or ERIH-indexed publications in magazines of impact, or other achievements of relevant significance for that domain, including international-level contributions that indicate progress in scientific research - development - innovation for the evaluated domain. The aforementioned doctoral thesis advisors enjoy international awareness within the past five years, consisting of: membership on scientific boards of international publications and conferences; membership on boards of international professional associations; guests in conferences or expert groups working abroad, or membership on doctoral defense commissions at universities abroad or co-leading with universities abroad. For Arts and Sports and Physical Education Sciences, doctoral thesis advisors shall prove their international visibility within the past five years by their membership on the boards of professional associations, membership in organizing committees of arts events and international competitions, membership on juries or umpire teams in artistic events or international competitions.*

The PhD supervisors have developed internationally recognized profiles through their research activities, through high-level publications and as artists in the field of film, television and media whose work is represented in scientific events of national and international importance (see Annexes)

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator *A.3.2.2. *At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in a specific doctoral study domain continue to be active in their scientific field, and acquire at least 25% of the score requested by the minimal CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, which are required and mandatory for acquiring their enabling certificate, based on their scientific results within the past five years.*

³ 3 years for the doctoral university studies with the duration stipulated at Article 159, paragraph (3), respectively 4 years for the doctoral university studies with the duration stipulated at Article 174, paragraph (3) of the Law of national education No.1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions, with additional extension periods approved as per Article 39, paragraph (3) of the Code of doctoral studies approved by the GD No. 681/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions.



The doctoral supervisors of the Film and Media Doctoral School are engaged in nationally and internationally recognized creative and scientific research activities. They therefore fully satisfy this criterion.

The indicator is fulfilled

Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

**general description of domain analysis.*

Criterion B.1. The number, quality and diversity of candidates enrolled for the admission contest

During the period 2005-2021, 47 theses were successfully defended by the Film and Media Section Graduate School, evaluated as Very Good and Excellent; no thesis had to be rewritten. No thesis was rejected.

Standard B.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies has the capacity to attract candidates from outside the higher education institution or a number of candidates exceeding the number of seats available.

The demand for places in the Film and Media PhD program is quite competitive. From the documentation provided, it is difficult for me to estimate the number of international students the program attracts.

Performance Indicator *B.1.1.1. *The ratio between the number of graduates of masters' programs of other higher education institutions, national or foreign, who have enrolled for the doctoral admission contest within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget, put out through contest within the doctoral domain is at least 0.2 or the ratio between the number of candidates within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget put out through contest within the doctoral studies domain is at least 1,2.*

Both criteria are satisfied. The quality of the doctoral education provided by UNATC is generally of very high quality.

The indicator is fulfilled

Standard B.1.2 Candidates admitted to doctoral studies demonstrate academic, research and professional performance.

All candidates admitted to the doctoral programme are of a suitable standard and are expected demonstrate the necessary skills and competencies to complete the programme successfully.

Performance Indicator *B.1.2.1. *Admission to doctoral study programs is based on selection criteria including: previous academic, research and professional performance, their interest for scientific or*



arts/sports research, publications in the domain and a proposal for a research subject. Interviewing the candidate is compulsory, as part of the admission procedure.

Regarding the quality of the admitted doctoral students, some of them already enjoy recognition in the national cinematographic field, working or collaborating with prestigious institutions in Romania, with renowned authors of studies or scientific works in the field of film, television and media, people who, in general, have proven their competence.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator B.1.2.2. *The expelling rate, including renouncement / dropping out of doctoral students 3, respectively 4, years after admission⁴ does not exceed 30%.*

UNATC's retention and completion statistics for doctoral programs are very good: dropout rates for Film and Media programs are low.

The indicator is fulfilled

Criterion B.2. The content of doctoral programs

Standard B.2.1. The training program based on advanced university studies is appropriate to improve doctoral students' research skills and to strengthen ethical behavior in science.

A training programme is in place and students are apprised of appropriate ethical procedures.

Performance Indicator B.2.1.1. *The training program based on advanced academic studies includes at least 3 disciplines relevant to the scientific research training of doctoral students; at least one of these disciplines is intended to study in-depth the research methodology and/or the statistical data processing.*

The training provided by the doctoral school meets these requirements, both through the general aesthetic courses and through a rigorous methodological approach. The documents attached to the self-evaluation show the specific references to the knowledge, skills, competences, responsibility and autonomy acquired by the doctoral students at the end of the training program.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator B.2.1.2. *At least one discipline is dedicated to Ethics and Intellectual Property in scientific research or there are well-defined topics on these subjects within a discipline taught in the doctoral program.*

⁴ 3 years for the doctoral university studies with the duration stipulated at Article 159, paragraph (3), respectively 4 years for the doctoral university studies with the duration stipulated at Article 174, paragraph (3) of the Law of national education No. 1/2011 with subsequent amendments and additions.



There is a discipline dedicated to scientific research ethics and intellectual property in the curriculum offered by UNATC. In particular, there is a mandatory course on "Academic Ethics and Integrity".

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator B.2.1.3. *The IOSUD has mechanisms to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced university studies addresses „the learning outcomes”, specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities⁵.*

- Specific learning outcomes for the courses comprising the academic program are provided in the module proformas compiled in the Appendix.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator B.2.1.4. *All along the duration of the doctoral training, doctoral students in the domain receive counselling/guidance from functional guidance commissions, which is reflected in written guidance and feedback or regular meeting.*

Students can benefit from this type of advice, as we find evidence of in the Appendices. Each doctoral student benefits from advice provided by a functional doctoral committee

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator B.2.1.5. *For a doctoral study domain, the ratio between the number of doctoral students and the number of teaching staff/researchers providing doctoral guidance must not exceed 3:1.*

These criteria are well respected and the indicator achieved according to the testimonies received and the documents studied.

The indicator is fulfilled

Criterion B.3. The results of doctoral studies and procedures for their evaluation.

Standard B.3.1. Doctoral students capitalize on the research through presentations at scientific conferences, scientific publications, technological transfer, patents, products and service orders.

**general description of the standard analysis.*

⁵ Or by what the graduate should know, understand and to be able to do, according to the provisions of the Methodology of 17 March 2017 regarding inscription and registration of higher education qualifications in the National Register of Qualifications in Higher Education (RNCIS) approved by the Order No.3475/2017 with subsequent amendments and additions.



Performance Indicator B.3.1.1. For the evaluated domain, the evaluation commission will be provided with at least one paper or some other relevant contribution per doctoral student who has obtained a doctor's title within the past 5 years. From this list, the members of the evaluation commission shall randomly select 5 such papers / relevant contributions per doctoral study domain for review. At least 3 selected papers must contain significant original contributions in the respective domain.

The review committee had the opportunity to consult a series of publications by UNATC graduates which are listed in the Appendix. These demonstrated quality, rigor and competence while making an original contribution to the field of study.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator *B.3.1.2. The ratio between the number of presentations of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years), including posters, exhibitions made at prestigious international events (organized in the country or abroad) and the number of doctoral students who have completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years) is at least 1.

This criterion is met and gives full satisfaction.

The indicator is fulfilled

Standard B.3.2. The Doctoral School engages a significant number of external scientific specialists in the commissions for public defense of doctoral theses in the analyzed domain.

As a result of the meetings and documents consulted, a significant number of external specialists have been hired to examine doctoral theses, which places UNATC among the Doctoral Schools of Excellence.

Performance Indicator *B.3.2.1. The number of doctoral theses allocated to one specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the evaluated IOSUD should not exceed two (2) in a year for the theses coordinated by the same doctoral thesis advisor.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator *B.3.2.2. The ratio between the doctoral theses allocated to one scientific specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the institution where the defense on the doctoral thesis is organized, and the number of doctoral theses presented in the same doctoral study domain in the doctoral school should not exceed 0.3, considering the past five years. Only those doctoral study domains in which minimum ten doctoral theses have been presented within the past five years should be analyzed.

The indicator is fulfilled



Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

**general description of domain analysis.*

Criterion C.1. Existence and periodic implementation of the internal quality assurance system

The review team found that appropriate quality assurance procedures are in place.

Standard C.1.1. There are an institutional framework and procedures in place and relevant internal quality assurance policies, applied for monitoring the internal quality assurance.

The institutional framework and procedures in place as well as relevant internal quality assurance policies are properly applied for monitoring internal quality assurance.

Performance Indicator C.1.1.1. *The Doctoral school in the respective university study domain shall demonstrate the continuous development of the evaluation process and its internal quality assurance following a procedure developed and applied at the level of the IOSUD, the following assessed criteria being mandatory:*

*(a) the scientific work of Doctoral advisors;
(b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary to carry out the research activity;
(c) the procedures and subsequent rules based on which doctoral studies are organized;
(d) the scientific activity of doctoral students;
(e) the training program based on advanced academic studies of doctoral students;
(f) social and academic services (including for participation at different events, publishing papers etc.) and counselling made available to doctoral students.*

- description of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents and the evaluation visit itself

- analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents and the evaluation visit itself

Monitoring of the internal quality assurance of the Doctoral School Film and Media section is included in the annual reports of the Assessment and Quality Assurance Commission. The Doctoral School prepares annual self-assessment reports that identify actions taken to support internal quality assurance.

All procedures and subsequent rules underlying the organization of doctoral studies by the Doctoral School of Theater are specified in the institutional regulations on the organization and operation of doctoral study programs.

This operation is transparent and the criteria explicit.

The indicator is fulfilled



Performance Indicator *C.1.1.2. *Mechanisms are implemented during the stage of the doctoral study program to enable feedback from doctoral students allowing to identify their needs, as well as their overall level of satisfaction with the doctoral study program in order to ensure continuous improvement of the academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the results, there is evidence that an action plan was drafted and implemented.*

- *description of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents and the evaluation visit itself*

- *analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents and the evaluation visit itself*

The self-evaluation form indicates that students are surveyed periodically for feedback on the program. A sample student questionnaire is provided in the Appendix.

The indicator is fulfilled

Criterion C.2. Transparency of information and accessibility of learning resources

The UNATC Graduate School Film and Media section ensures the accessibility of the educational resources in a satisfactory manner and makes the information available in a completely transparent way.

Standard C.2.1. Information of interest to doctoral students, future candidates and public interest information is available for electronic format consultation.

Communication is excellent and information is available on the institution's website for current and prospective students, as well as for members of the general public.

Performance Indicator C.2.1.1. *The IOSUD publishes on the website of the organizing institution, in compliance with the general regulations on data protection, information such as:*

(a) the Doctoral School regulation;

(b) the admission regulation;

(c) the doctoral studies contract;

(d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis;

(e) the content of training program based on advanced academic studies;

(f) the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas/research themes of the Doctoral advisors within the domain, as well as their institutional contact data;

(g) the list of doctoral students within the domain with necessary information (year of registration; advisor);

(h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis;

(i) links to the doctoral theses' summaries to be publicly presented and the date, time, place where they will be presented; this information will be communicated at least twenty days before the presentation.



- description of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents and the evaluation visit itself
- analysis of the facts, the findings from the assessed institution's documents and the evaluation visit itself

The doctoral school publishes on the website of the organizing institution, respecting the general rules of data protection, information on: (a) the regulations of the doctoral school; Regulations of the doctoral school of Film and Media- Regulations on the organization and functioning of the doctoral study program.

The indicator is fulfilled

Standard C.2.2. The IOSUD/The Doctoral School provides doctoral students with access to the resources needed for conducting doctoral studies.

This finding has been confirmed by the review panel. It should be noted that each doctoral student has access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying similarity with other existing scientific or artistic creations. IOSUD has contracted and implemented software services/applications for verifying the similarity of doctoral students' scientific achievements, including the doctoral dissertation, with other existing scientific or artistic works, and for providing doctoral students with access to this facility

Performance Indicator C.2.2.1. All doctoral students have free access to one platform providing academic databases relevant to the doctoral studies domain of their thesis.

Students have access to a variety of databases and research aids via the library website. Effective device.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator C.2.2.2. Each doctoral student shall have access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic works.

The anti-plagiarism software is accessible to all, staff and doctoral students.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator C.2.2.3. All doctoral students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specific domain/domains within the Doctoral School, according to internal order procedures.

The evaluator is satisfied that students have access to the necessary facilities, following meetings with doctoral students who described the facilitated access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities, particularly those related to film and audiovisual creation.

The indicator is fulfilled



Criterion C.3. Internationalization

Standard C.3.1. There is a strategy in place and it is applied to enhance the internationalization of doctoral studies.

Performance Indicator *C.3.1.1. *IOSUD, for every evaluated domain, has concluded mobility agreements with universities abroad, with research institutes, with companies working in the field of study, aimed at the mobility of doctoral students and academic staff (e.g., ERASMUS agreements for the doctoral studies). At least 35% of the doctoral students have completed a training course abroad or other mobility forms such as attending international scientific conferences. IOSUD drafts and applies policies and measures aiming at increasing the number of doctoral students participating at mobility periods abroad, up to at least 20%, which is the target at the level of the European Higher Education Area.*

The UNATC Doctoral School has mobility agreements with universities abroad, with research institutes, with companies working in the field of film studies, aimed at the mobility of doctoral students and academic staff. Many doctoral students have taken a training course abroad or other forms of mobility such as participation in international scientific conferences.

Recommendations:

The institution should continue the valuable momentum in internationalization and strive to ensure that a greater proportion of students can benefit from internships and exchanges abroad, as well as opportunities to participate in international research forums.

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator C.3.1.2. *In the evaluated doctoral study domain, support is granted, including financial support, to the organization of doctoral studies in international co-tutelage or invitation of leading experts to deliver courses/lectures for doctoral students.*

Indeed, at the UNATC Graduate School support is given, including financial support, to the organization of international co-supervision doctoral studies or to the invitation of leading experts to give courses/lectures to doctoral students.

This criterion is therefore met, but the momentum could be strengthened.

Recommendations:

The institution should explore the possibility of hosting foreign fellows and artists-in-residence, and provide students with the opportunity to benefit from their expertise. This could be a valuable way to make useful contacts abroad and foster international connections. A regular lecture/seminar series would also be a good idea with a mix of Romanian and foreign speakers.

The indicator is fulfilled



Performance Indicator C.3.1.3. *The internationalization of activities carried out during the doctoral studies is supported by IOSUD through concrete measures (e.g., by participating in educational fairs to attract international doctoral students; by including international experts in guidance committees or doctoral committees etc.).*

The Film and Media doctoral school UNATC is moving in the right direction by aiming to increase the degree of internationalization, as a specific objective of a strategy of openness and scientific excellence. The criterion is therefore fulfilled.

The indicator is fulfilled

IV. SWOT Analysis

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Strengths:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High quality faculty with a national/international reputation. - Clearly asserted leadership in the doctoral training modalities - Quality of artistic and academic productions - Very good dynamics of theoretical-practical interaction - Clearly defined interdisciplinary research axis Film/media/Theatre/Dance/Performance - Cohesion of the team - Excellent involvement in research combined with the quality of relations within the doctoral school 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Weaknesses:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of funding for international projects - Need for more financial support for university and post-graduate research, both in terms of grants and funding for research activities, especially artistic ones: artists' residencies, film productions, participation in international festivals, conferences, trips abroad, etc.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Opportunities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create post-doctoral positions to foster the emergence of exceptional talent. - Intensify research activity and strengthen international presence through participation in multi-institutional research projects and the introduction of a visiting scholars program. - Support initiatives to participate in specific programs and projects in the field of Film and Media expanded to the interdisciplinary field of performing arts, locally, nationally and internationally. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Threats:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Deteriorating economic conditions with deleterious effects on the arts and culture sector (potentially exacerbated by the COVID19 pandemic) - Reduction in state support for culture, education and art research. - Excessive workloads for teachers and researchers forcing them to do more and more administrative and bureaucratic work to the detriment of their art research.



V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations

No.	Type of indicator (*, C)	Performance indicator	Judgment	Recommendations
	A	1.1.1.	fulfilled	
		1.1.2.	fulfilled	
		1.2.1.	fulfilled	
		1.2.2.	fulfilled	
		1.3.1.	fulfilled	
		1.3.2.	fulfilled	
		1.3.3.	fulfilled	Exploration of ways to increase financial support for participation in high-level national and international conferences.
		1.3.1.	fulfilled	
		2.1.1.	fulfilled	
		3.1.1.	fulfilled	
		3.1.2.	fulfilled	
		3.1.3.	fulfilled	
		3.1.4.	fulfilled	
		3.2.1.	fulfilled	
		3.2.2.	fulfilled	
	B	1.1.1.	fulfilled	
		1.1.2.	fulfilled	
		1.2.1.	fulfilled	
		1.2.2.	fulfilled	
		2.1.1.	fulfilled	
		2.1.2.	fulfilled	
		2.1.3.	fulfilled	
		2.1.4.	fulfilled	
		2.1.5.	fulfilled	
		3.1.1.	fulfilled	
		3.1.2.	fulfilled	
		3.2.1.	fulfilled	
		3.2.2.	fulfilled	
	C	1.1.1.	fulfilled	
		1.1.2.	fulfilled	



		2.1.1.	fulfiled	
		2.2.1.	fulfiled	
		2.2.2.	fulfiled	
		2.2.3.	fulfiled	
		3.1.1.	fulfiled	Continuation the valuable momentum in internationalization and strive to ensure that a greater proportion of students can benefit from internships and exchanges abroad, as well as opportunities to participate in international research forums.
		3.1.2.	fulfiled	Explore the possibility of hosting foreign fellows and artists-in-residence, and provide students with the opportunity to benefit from their expertise. This could be a valuable way to make useful contacts abroad and foster international connections. A regular lecture/seminar series would also be a good idea with a mix of Romanian and foreign speakers.
		3.1.3.	fulfiled	



VI. Conclusions and general recommendations

The UNATC Graduate School is of the highest quality. It is supervised by high-level staff members with an important national and international reputation.

The research conducted at both the academic and artistic/experimental levels is excellent.

The quality of the facilities is very good and appropriate to support the conduct of high quality academic research.

The quality assurance mechanisms are appropriate and functioning well.

The students enrolled in the program that we were able to listen to during the week really appreciate the high level of training that they receive and the dropout rates are low.

Graduates of the program have developed significant professional profiles and have made outstanding contributions to the national artistic and intellectual life.

However, efforts could be made to increase the presence of international scholars and artists-in-residence as well as the participation of UNATC Film and Media graduate school students in exchange programs abroad.