

Lucian_Blaga_University

Lucian Blaga University is located in Sibiu, capital city of the county bearing the same name, as well as historic capital of the German territory, former seat of Transylvanian governors during the Habsburg period. While there is a long history of higher education in the city, the university regards itself as a 'new' university having been founded in its present guise in 1990.

The beginning of the higher education system in Sibiu extends back to the 16th century. A law academy and a theological school were established in the 19th century while in the second half of the 20th century (1969) the faculty of philology and history was set up in Sibiu, as a branch of the Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj. The Sibiu Higher Education Institution was established in 1976 and it included faculties of philology and history, administrative law and mechanical engineering. This entity had a more circumscribed role during the late 1980s, but in March 1990 the government decreed the foundation of the University of Sibiu, as a public institution, with five faculties: letters, history and law; sciences; medicine; engineering; textile and food-processing technology. In 1991, the faculty of theology joined the University of Sibiu.

In May 1995, the University of Sibiu was granted the name of the distinguished Romanian writer and philosopher, Lucian Blaga. As is noted in the university's selfevaluation document, Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu (LBUS) 'owes its name to the outstanding personality of Lucian Blaga and his unequalled significance in Romanian culture, as well as his affiliation to the Transylvanian area and his connections with Sibiu'.

As the self-evaluation report makes clear, the current context for higher education in Romania is established by the 2011 Law of National Education, which was designed to improve performance in both education and research areas. The university sees two important processes to be taken into account in this respect: the classification of universities into three categories and the establishment of a hierarchy of study programmes into five classes, followed by an international institutional evaluation process managed by an international agency (EUA). The classification process involved three categories; advanced research and teaching universities; teaching and scientific research universities; and teaching universities. Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu has been classified as a teaching and scientific research public university, and therefore entered the international evaluation process in the second round.